Newmarket
WEEKLY NEWS
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Lessons are such a hoot

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Woman leaps from flat blaze

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

A COUPLE are recovering from an ordeal after a fire was started deliberately in their flat.

The woman suffered a back injury after jumping from a first floor window at the flat in George Lambton Avenue, Newmarket, early on Tuesday morning.

The man was rescued by firefighters and brought out of the flat on a ladder.

The couple, believed to be in their 30s, have not been identified by emergency services. They were taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital for treatment.

The man was suffering the effects of smoke inhalation. Four other people were treated by paramedics at the scene after complaining of breathing problems.

Two police officers tried to break into the flat to rescue the couple before the arrival of fire crews.

A Suffolk police spokeswoman said the officers managed to get into the flat but were unable to get past the blaze in the hallway.

She said the officers were unable to see or breathe because of the smoke and had to retreat.

The blaze, described as "quite severe" by the fire service, started in the hallway and filled the flat with smoke.

Police said it was being investigated as arson endangering life.

The couple's injuries were described as serious although not life-threatening.

Neighbour Suzy Ross, 34, said: "We woke up and heard a couple of girls screaming. There was an awful lot of smoke billowing out of the windows.

"It's a terrible thing to happen, especially at this time of year. I just hope they're all right."

Another neighbour, Amy Pringle, 22, said: "We woke up about 1.30am when we heard a lady screaming. There was smoke coming out of the windows. It was quite scary to see.

"My step-dad went over to help a disabled man who lives in the flats. He got him out and we had quite a lot of people in our house because it was so cold outside."

Robin Clifford, 41, Miss Pringle's step-father, said: "Fortunately I'm a light sleeper and I heard what I think was the fire alarm.

"I heard the woman jump and got my stuff and went over there to help clear the area. We had people in our house because we wanted to get the babies and children out of the cold and smoke."

The block where the blaze broke out has only been occupied for about a year.

Firefighters used breathing apparatus to search the flat and quickly extinguished the fire. Fire crews from Newmarket and Burwell tackled the blaze.

Police have appealed for anyone with information which could help the investigation to call Mildenhall CID on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers 0800 555111.

Scene of drama: Robin Clifford who led people to safety and, inset, the window where the woman leapt to escape the flat blaze.

Pictures by David Johnson 617252/617245

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Readers help raise £1m for trust appeal

BY JOHN DOWNING

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

CHRISTMAS has come early for the Teenage Cancer Trust (TCT) appeal – it hit its £1 million target this week.

Our sister paper, the *Cambridge News*, launched its bid to raise the seven-figure sum for a dedicated new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital on November 7, 2007.

The £100,000 milestone was reached before Christmas 2007 and hit the halfway mark last Christmas.

Even in the face of a recession, the generosity towards the appeal has been unwavering.

Colin Grant, group editor-in chief of Cambridge Newspapers and a trustee of the company's Press Relief charity, which has also backed the appeal, said: "When the *Cambridge News* launched the appeal two years ago it was the most ambitious fundraising campaign we had undertaken.

"Since then, the response from our readers and the community at large has been overwhelming and we are delighted to be able to announce that the target has been reached in just two years.

"Most importantly, it is money that is vital to the building of the specialist unit for youngsters suffering from cancer in our region and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed – both through the *Cambridge News* and Press Relief."

Helen Bearfield-Smith, the TCT's regional fundraiser, said: "We are delighted to hit the £1 million mark for our appeal and are extremely grateful to everyone who has shown support since we launched.

"It has been amazing to see so many corners of the community getting involved in fundraising – from businesses to youth groups, schools and colleges to sports teams and social clubs.

"We have also received amazing support from the patients who need the unit, their families and friends and also, sadly, bereaved families who understand more than most why this unit is so vital."

Work on the new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital started this month.

It is due to open in December 2010 and will treat patients aged 13 to 24 from across East Anglia and beyond.

Boosting trust: with the cheque for £6,300 are, from left, Rachel Preen from HSBC, Lord Vincent Constantine, patron, Helen Bearfield-Smith and Laura Woodcock from the TCT.

Picture: Duncan Lamont 617372

Charity race night sees £6,300 banked

BANK staff raised more than £6,300 at a charity race night for the £1 million Teenage Cancer Trust (TCT) appeal.

HSBC Bank Central and East Premier Region held the event at Heath Court Hotel in Newmarket. It was organised by Rachel Preen from the Cambridge Premier office and the compere was local businessman Alan Coogan.

More than 130 people enjoyed the night and the £3,150 raised was doubled under the bank's charity scheme.

Funds were boosted by the sponsorship of the races by local businesses and donations from Darley Stud, Tattersalls and racehorse trainers James Fanshawe and William Haggas.

The evening was also supported by Pride Hair and Beauty, Audrey's Beauty Salon, Sheringtons, Farthings dry cleaners, Jane Webb, Chris Brown hairdressers and estate agents Cheffins and Pocock and Shaw.

Lots at a fundraising auction included a signed pair of breeches from Frankie Dettori, a Jacqui Jones painting on canvas and signed prints from Willie Carson.

Drivers are still flouting law on mobile phones

HARSHER fines and more points on driving licences have failed to deter drivers from using hand-held mobiles while behind the wheel, according to new figures released by Cambridgeshire police.

The number of people caught driving while using a hand-held phone so far in 2009 is 1,921 – only around 100 fewer than were caught in the whole of 2008.

In just one hour's observation at a busy Cambridgeshire roundabout, the *Weekly News* spotted nine people driving while on their mobiles, supporting police fears that the offence has far from disappeared in the region.

Insp Alan Page, of Cambridgeshire police, said: "It is completely unacceptable that there are still motorists out there ignoring the law and using a hand-held mobile while driving. It is vital that people comply with the law if we are to reduce fatalities and casualties on the roads."

The number of people caught by Cambridgeshire police on their hand-held phone while driving dropped dramatically in the immediate aftermath of harsher penalties being introduced, from 3,402 in 2006 to 2,183 in 2007.

In 2007, the fine was increased to £60, with three points also added to a licence.

Thief grabs till

A TILL was stolen from an Indian restaurant in The Avenue, Newmarket.

The thief struck at the Old Scotch Indian Restaurant between 11pm and 11.30pm on Saturday. He ran off with the till towards nearby Queensberry Road. The till and contents are valued at about £120.

Call Pc Dan Hudson at Newmarket Police on (01284) 774100.

Drug possession charge

A DRIVER has been charged with illegal drug possession after a car was stopped in Bury Road, Newmarket.

Allan Tregenna, 33, of Rayes Lane, Newmarket, is accused of having cocaine on Monday, November 9. He is due to appear before magistrates in Bury St Edmunds on December 29.

perse girls
junior school

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senior school

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£7,000 raised for school at ball

A GRAND total of £7,000 has been raised for The Meadows School, Balsham, at the Balsham Ball.

The cash will be used to purchase new play equipment for the Key Stage 2 playground.

Emma Hirst from the school's PTA said: "We are obviously delighted with this figure as it is far more than we originally anticipated due to the current climate. I think it may even be the most we have ever raised at a ball."

This year's ball was held on November 28. The ball is organised biannually by the school's Parent Teacher Association as one of their major fundraising events.

The village primary school, which serves the South Cambridgeshire villages of West Wratting, Weston Colville, West Wickham and Streetly End as well as Balsham, benefits to the tune of several thousand pounds a year thanks to the PTA's fundraising activities.

Through their ongoing work the PTA has recently helped fund an ICT suite, swimming pool and interactive whiteboards for every classroom.

Event sponsorship was provided by Safebox, which has its head office based in West Wratting and with several staff living locally.

In the past Safebox has supported other charitable and community groups as well as continual sponsorship of local Lightning Rod driving legend Steve Santry.

Camouflage gear stolen in raid

AMERICAN Air Force camouflage clothing together with night-vision goggles and armour plating has been stolen from the garage of a house.

The pack of equipment was taken from an unlocked garage in Evergreen Way, Mildenhall, between 5pm and 6.30pm on Wednesday, December 9.

It includes tactical rope, an ABU patterned Gortex jacket together with a fleece and a hat.

Anyone with information should call Sgt Phil Payne at the Mildenhall Safer Neighbourhood Team on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

They all say no: among the protesters who marched from Tattersalls to Newmarket Memorial Hall over the Hatchfield Farm housing proposals are Luca Cumani (centre right) with Sir Michael Stoute (red jacket). Picture: Duncan Lamont 617112

Racing industry takes homes protest to town

LEADING figures in Newmarket's horse racing industry took part in a placard-waving protest against plans to build 1,200 new homes.

Top racehorse trainers Sir Michael Stoute, Henry Cecil, Luca Cumani and Clive Brittain were among the industry leaders who took part in the demonstration against Lord Derby's proposals to develop 160 acres of his land on the edge of the town.

Several hundred people, mainly associated with racing, listened to speakers in

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

an open-air meeting at Tattersalls' Highflyer Paddocks before an informal march to the Memorial Hall in the High Street.

The hall is home to the town council which has opposed Forest Heath District Council's development core strategy for the next 22 years – the document that has controversially backed the development of "north-east Newmarket" where Lord Derby's Hatchfield Farm is sited.

At the same time as the demonstration, a petition was started by the Save Historic Newmarket Action Group.

The demonstration follows the submission of a formal application for outline planning permission last week and coincided with the start on Tuesday of an examination in public of the core strategy for the district by a planning inspector.

The racing industry is opposing the housing scheme because, it says, it will harm racing and the town's position as the historic home of racing.

Mr Cumani described the development as "crazy".

He said the scheme was "totally unnecessary" and would add to traffic congestion.

Sir Michael said: "You can see the strength of feeling from all factions in the racing industry. We don't want to see this town spoilt and this scheme will spoil it."

Jimmy George, Tattersalls marketing director, said: "We all feel let down and let down badly by our district councillors.

"All of us are deeply concerned for the future of the town of Newmarket and the racing and breeding industries within it.

"But Forest Heath has remained set on a course that could destroy a town regarded globally as a centre of excellence."

Driver badly hurt after hitting tree

A MAN suffered life-threatening injuries when his pick-up truck hit a tree on Sunday.

The smash happened on an unclassified road at Ousden, just after 7pm.

Firefighters had to use cutting equipment to free the driver from the wreckage of the blue Ford Ranger.

Paramedics and an emergency doctor treated the man at the scene of the crash before he was taken to West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds.

He suffered multiple injuries and police reported on Monday he was in a critical condition.

Fire crews from Newmarket and Wickhambrook helped with the rescue.

The road reopened at around 11pm.

Police have appealed for any witnesses or anyone with information to contact the Bury St Edmunds roads policing unit (01284) 774100.

Couple disturb burglars

A HANDBAG and a briefcase were stolen from an elderly couple's home after they found four men in the property.

The couple, in their 70s, discovered the men in their home in Aureole Walk, on Newmarket's Studlands Park estate, at around 8.30pm on Monday.

The briefcase was found dumped nearby.

The men spoke to the couple before leaving.

The first man is described as white, around 30 years old and tall.

The second man is described as white with fair hair and was shorter than the first man.

The third and fourth man are both described as white and of slim build.

One of them walked in a stooped manner.

Anyone with information should call Pc Nik Chapman at Newmarket Police on (01284) 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Four men arrested after alleged assault in High Street

ONE man has been cautioned and three have been released on police bail after an alleged assault in Newmarket.

The incident took place at around 5am on Sunday in The Avenue.

Officers were contacted just after 5am to reports of an altercation in Newmarket High Street.

An 18-year-old woman and a male friend are believed to have been assaulted and police are currently working to determine exactly what happened.

Two areas were cordoned off for forensic examination.

Four men were arrested following the incident.

A 31-year-old man from London and a 31-year-old man from Essex have been released on police bail to return to Bury St Edmunds police station on February 13.

A 26-year-old man from Essex has been released on police bail to return to Bury St Edmunds police station on March 3.

A 37-year-old man from Middlesex has received a caution for obstructing a constable.

Officers are appealing for witnesses and would like to speak to anyone who was in the area between around 4.30am and 5.30am that morning. Call Suffolk police on 01473 613500.

Top tips on saving cash

It may be an expensive time of year for many of us, but help is at hand if your bank balance is feeling the strain.

Readers were asked for their money-saving tips as part of our partnership with Barclays Money Skills, designed to help you make the most of your money.

From actions you can take around the home, to useful websites, readers suggested a range of clever ideas and we have published many of them here. Thank you to all of you who took part.

1. Use websites such as *find-dvd.co.uk*, *find-cd.co.uk* and find-*book.co.uk* to track down the cheapest prices and *myvoucher codes.co.uk* to obtain money-saving discount codes. – **£watcher**

2. There are some really good offers on loft insulation from B&Q, Homebase, Focus etc – take a look in your loft, if you have less than the 270mm of insulation they recommend these days, top it up now at bargain prices.

If you can't do it yourself there are companies who will quote for the work and advise you on government grants available to you.

Loft and wall insulation has one of the quickest payback periods around, typically less than two years; spend a little now to save a lot later. Utility bills will only go one way – up, up, up! – **Andrew**

3. If you join *www.greasypalm.co.uk* you can receive cash back through certain online purchases/offers.

All you have to do is log on to the site, search for the website you wish to make a purchase from (not everything is there) and make sure that you follow the links from Greasy Palm.

It's only a few per cent here and there and you can only withdraw when you reach £25 – but if you shop online a lot it could eventually be worth it. There are other cashback offers on the site so if you're looking for a new credit card etc check here first. I found out about this from *www.moneysavingexpert.com* – which also has plenty of money-saving tips. – **Jen**

4. Use a 'hay-box' (thick insulation, such as old towels) to cook stews and curries once they have started to cook on the hob – it works for rice, too. Once pasta has come to a rolling boil, turn off the heat and let it cook in its own heat, with a towel over the lid.

If you're using the oven, fill it up with things. Keep your heating down and wear jumpers, or a blanket over you if sedentary. – **Chrissie**

5. If you have older double-glazed windows, before they started fitting trickle vents, most windows will lock in an open position by about half an inch (12mm) allowing some ventilation but maintaining security.

I find that this gap is too big in cold winter months (wasting heating) so use 25mm thick polystyrene insulation sheet cut into strips with a craft knife to block up most of the gap, leaving just enough for background ventilation.

The polystyrene will compress to give a good seal where you want it. You avoid condensation, save on heating and maintain security.

On some windows you can retrofit trickle vents but this is beyond most DIYers. – **Andrew**

6. *www.uShare.co.uk* is all about saving money. It lets you borrow and lend everyday items with people who live or work in your local community.

You don't have to pay for each item you borrow as it works on a points system, meaning you could save lots of money by removing the need to buy something you may only use once! Simply borrow it, use it and return it. Have a look at *www.uShare.co.uk* – **John Wardle.**

7. Use *www.eastcoast.co.uk* to find cheap fares. Splitting tickets, buying advance fares, and buying online can all save you lots on the walk-up fares. Travel to Manchester from Cambridge for £10 instead of £85.50. And watch out for special offers, like MobiTix £1 tickets from London Euston. – **Nico**

8. Don't just allow your home and car insurance to renew themselves – check every year to see that you're getting the best deal in terms of price and cover. – **Paul**

9. Sign up to moneysavingexpert's newslettter, which is sent via email. – **John**

10. Draw up a household budget – you can't save money unless you know how you're spending it. – **Claire**

11. Consider making some of your Christmas presents. If you have a skill, use it to create personal gifts. – **Rachel**

And here are some tips from Barclays:

12. When doing a weekly shop, consider your chosen supermarket's 'economy range' as often the products are very similar, just in different packaging and can be much cheaper.

13. Before you go shopping, make a list of what you need and then stick to it. Don't shop if you're hungry or you'll be tempted to buy lots of things you don't need.

14. Plan and shop to make your own packed lunches for work. You'll be amazed at how much you can save

15. At the end of the day, put all your loose change in a jar, it soon adds up.

16. Plan and book your travel in advance to get the cheapest deals on rail tickets.

17. Eating out can be expensive, but you could potentially halve your bill by using a voucher or knowing the latest deal. Restaurants often run 2 for 1 deals – look out for these online.

18. Switch off all your appliances at the wall before going to bed at night. Many electrical items continue to use electricity even while off if connected to an outlet. Do you really need to use the oven or microwave as a clock? A battery-powered wall clock uses much less power

19. Before buying new clothes you think you need, go through your wardrobe thoroughly. You will probably find things you had forgotten about.

20. Take advantages of sales throughout the year to look for gifts for family and friends. This will help to spread the cost of Christmas.

'Get your children involved'

MARIE-CLAIRE Berreen, Barclays' community investment manager for the region, suggested ways parents can help their children learn about money.

She said: "Our attitudes to money are often formed as a result of our early experiences so, for example, if our family had very little money we may be more careful with our own as a result. Alternatively, if it appeared as though family members got everything they asked for then we may struggle to prioritise our own spending.

"Helping people to increase money skills at an early age can make a huge difference when they become responsible for their own finances. You can help your children in many ways. For example, take them with you to do the weekly food shopping and give them tasks to do to help you.

"Ask them to help you to write your shopping list and stick to the items to keep within your budget. You could give them responsibility for purchasing an item on the list and ask them to help you to compare prices and find the cheapest item. You can then tell your child how much money they've saved your family."

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Success: from left, front row: Joshua Grover, Olivia Stevens, Lowri Davies, Luke Robbins; middle row: Jaime Poole, Emma Healey, Laura Robinson, Manon Davies, Chloe Robbins; back row: Rebecca Cuthill, Ariana Bentley, Sophie Bush, Phoebe Spry, Rebecca Bush. CP.

Young dancers step out to success

YOUNG dancers have followed in the footsteps of *Strictly Come Dancing* celebrities by taking to the floor of Blackpool Tower ballroom at a prestigious competition.

Several youngsters from Cambridgeshire, Newmarket and Royston stepped out for the ISTD National Grand Finals.

The Lane Dance Centre students included 12-year-old Laura Robinson, from Moulton, who recorded a triple win as she was crowned national champion in ballroom, Latin and the juvenile sequence 3 dance event.

Claire Thompson, Laura's teacher and principal of Lane Dance Centres said: "To win one event is fantastic, but to be a national champion in all three styles in the same year is an outstanding achievement."

The buzz of the weekend was heightened after Pat Perryman, from Royston, became champion of her 3 Dance Sequence for the fourth year running, and second in her Ballroom and Latin events.

Manon Davies, 10, from Newmarket, then went on to become champion of the juvenile jive and was placed third in both ballroom and sequence events.

Other runners up and finalists included Cambridgeshire's Lowri Davies, Sophie Bush, June Snowden and Phoebe Spry.

For more information on classes contact Claire on (01223) 871007 or *www.lanedancecentres.co.uk*

Lesson is just one big hoot!

OWLS flew over the heads of village school children to help them with a topic about dark and light.

The four birds were taken along for a visit to Burrough Green School, near Newmarket, from their home at the Raptor Foundation at Woodhurst, near Huntingdon.

They included a Barn Owl and Long-Eared Owl together with a Harris Hawk.

Rachel Downes, class teacher, said: "It was nice to tie in the topic work with visits.

"The children were able to learn new things as well as show what they had remembered."

The foundation, which rescues all types of owls and hawks, is home to more than 200 birds including 40 different species.

A bird in hand: Madison Howard, 5, with Goliath, a white-faced scops owl, and Jorge Aguilar-Agon, 5, with Fiver, a long-eared owl, with Terri Page from the Raptor Foundation. Picture: Dave Tully 616462

Man trapped under tractor

A MAN in his 70s suffered life-threatening injuries when he became trapped under the wheel of a tractor.

He is believed to have been trapped for around an hour before he was discovered and emergency services were called to Birchwood Farm, Skeltons Drove, Kenny Hill, at 5pm last Thursday.

Fire crews from Newmarket and Mildenhall used inflatable air bags to lift the tractor off the man who was taken to West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds, with multiple broken bones.

Police said he had suffered life-threatening injuries and the Health and Safety Executive are investigating.

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Any dish from our Traditional Selection or Vegetable Main Dish Selection. Includes Pilau Rice or Plain Naan.
Tea or Coffee

Police praised as crime drops

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

CRIME has fallen to its lowest level for four years – according to latest figures from the police in Newmarket.

A 9.4 per cent reduction has been recorded in the period from April 1 to the end of November.

The total number of crimes in Newmarket for the period is 1,468 – lower than the same period in the three previous years.

Inspector Simon Clifton, of Newmarket police, told town councillors that drink or drug-related violence in a public place had gone down by 35 per cent and public order offences were down by 21 per cent.

"These are astounding figures and I would like to thank everyone who has helped achieve this reduction – including the town pastors and the SOS bus as well as the licensees who have been fully supportive."

Inspector Simon Clifton: thanks others who have helped achieve the reduction in crime.

He added that a satisfaction survey showed that 93 per cent of people in the Newmarket area felt "fairly safe or very safe" – one of the highest figures in Suffolk.

The survey also showed that 81 per cent of people gave the police an "excellent" or "good" rating – also one of the best results in the county.

■ Insp Clifton will be moving to a new appointment after just over a year in command at Newmarket.

In the New Year he will become the area support inspector overseeing pre-planned and major events in the west of the county and the development of safer neighbourhood teams.

He will be replaced at Newmarket by Inspector Neil Ireland who was introduced to Newmarket Town Council this week.

Insp Ireland, 46, joined the Suffolk force in September 2003 when he transferred from Hampshire Constabulary where he had completed 20 years service.

His previous appointment was as staff officer to the deputy and assistant chief constables at Suffolk force headquarters.

Crews tackle jeep blaze

FIREFIGHTERS were called to a car on fire.

The incident involved a Suzuki Jeep which was "well alight" in College Heath Road, Mildenhall. Crews from Mildenhall and Brandon were called to the scene at 8.45pm on Saturday and the fire was under control by 8.56pm.

A14 accident traps person

ONE person was released from a vehicle by firefighters after a crash.

The incident happened on the slip road to Bottisham from the A14 westbound on Sunday.

One crew from Cambridge and a rescue vehicle from the city were called out.

Cattery plan for village

A BOARDING cattery could be built in Isleham.

Mr and Mrs G Smith, of Waterside, want to build the cattery at their property.

Plans submitted to East Cambridgeshire District Council include building a single-storey timber building.

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At the same time, we are constantly looking to improve our title and are always happy to hear from you with suggestions and comments.
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WEEKLY NEWS LETTERS

Send your letters to: The Editor, Newmarket Weekly News, 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL or by email to editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

Shopping night much enjoyed

Sir, On behalf of the Mildenhall Community Partnership, may I please express my warm thanks to all who participated, in any and every way, in the late shopping evening held in Mildenhall town centre on Thursday, December 10.
Blessed as we were with a dry evening, many people – of all ages – were able to enjoy the wide range of activities during the three hours from 5pm to 8pm or slightly after.
Beginning with the formal lighting up of the Christmas tree, again generously given by the Elveden Estate and erected by the parish council, it was appropriate that Father Christmas and a dozen youngsters did that duty outside St Mary's Church before a variety of seasonal activities, music and song being interspersed with mince pies, chocolate biscuits and hot soup!
Although there was clearly some misunderstanding of the purpose of a 'late shopping evening' – not the same as a charity fundraising stall event – the happy smiles and laughter seen will hopefully presage an even more successful event in 2010.
Certainly the main protagonists – Forest Heath District Council, the community partnership and the parish council – are already thinking of ways to improve the event next year, while reminding potential entrants the competition entries must be in by December 19.

John Barker
press officer,
Mildenhall Community Partnership
Churchill Drive
Mildenhall

CAP cash for bad farming

Sir, What is the European Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for? A good question in our Cambridgeshire Fens!

I am not a big fan of the National Trust's so-called "Wicken Vision", but I had assumed until recently that this silly plan to take fine food-producing fenland out of production relied for its funding on the National Lottery, generous grants of taxpayers' cash from such as Mr John Prescott, and money given by members of the trust and others.

I have now been informed by the trust that the so-called "vision" is also supported to the tune of many thousands of pounds annually by the CAP through the latter's various schemes that are believed by many to have been intended for the support of European agriculture. I receive a relatively small sum myself and most of my land is farmed well and is used for food production. I recently commended a much larger-scale neighbour for his fine farming and remarked that he will soon receive a substantial sum on the basis of farming his land properly and keeping it in good heart.

The National Trust has now owned up to expecting to be in receipt of at least £121,000 per annum for practising the opposite of good farming. It is busily applying for much more money in years to come and, all, so it seems, for letting land in its hands go to rack and ruin and growing thousands of thistles.

Any idiot can grow thistles. It needs no CAP support.

This is a European CAP scandal that needs to be exposed.

Geoffrey Woollard
River Bank
Upware

MEMORIES

THIS week's festive photograph, from our archives, shows a group of people about to sit down to dinner.
But who are they, where was the event and when was it held?
We welcome your letters or emails on these recollections.
Send your recollections to: Memories, *Newmarket Weekly News,* 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL, or email *editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk* by Tuesday morning. 595158

Last week's *Memories* photograph, from our archives, showed children enjoying a party hosted by Newmarket Fire Brigade. The youngsters appear to be pulling a huge cracker! This lovely photograph was taken in January, 1966.
595157

Info needed on wartime pilot

Sir, I am trying to locate any of your readers who may have known or heard talk of my half brother – Pilot Officer Douglas Moss.
He was stationed at one of the RAF bases during the Second World War. Douglas was flying with the No 75 (NZ) Squadron when he was on a mission over Germany and failed to return on August 24, 1943.
I can be contacted at the address below or my email – *bandbmunro@clear.net.nz*

B D Munro
5 Rawhiti Street
Stokes Valley
Lower Hutt, 5019
New Zealand

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should arrive by noon on the Monday before publication. Full name and address must be supplied and details will be withheld only in exceptional circumstances. Letters should be no longer than 250 words and may be edited.

Racing reins Fallon in over drugs claim

A TOP jockey's claim that drug use is rife in Newmarket's horse racing industry has been rejected by industry chiefs and the police.

Six-times champion jockey Kieren Fallon made the comment in a BBC television documentary aired on Monday night.

Fallon, 44, who returned to riding in September after an 18-month drugs ban, told interviewer Clare Balding: "Newmarket has the highest rate (of drug use) for its population in any town in England."

He said there was a drug problem in racing generally.

"I don't mean in the (jockeys') weighing room, I mean outside," he said.

"If there were people that needed help I would love to advise them. I think there's plenty if you really want help, but it's up to yourself."

But a spokesman for the British Horseracing Authority said: "There is no evidence from our random testing that there is widespread use of drugs among jockeys.

"Positive tests, either for drugs or alcohol, are few and far between.

"If a licensed individual had evidence about misuse of drugs within the sport, we would hope to hear from them."

The industry has a number of schemes offering counselling and support for people with drink, drug or gambling problems.

Racing Welfare, the charity for people working in the industry, has a 24-hour phone help line for people who work in the industry.

Support was stepped up several years ago after a spate of suicides, some of which were said to have been related to drink or drugs.

The Rev Graham Locking, chaplain to the horseracing industry, said Newmarket's drugs problem was no worse than any similar-sized community.

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

Speaking out: jockey Kieren Fallon, who returned to racing in September.

Drug arrests in Newmarket have fallen this year as police targeted drug dealers and producers.

From April to the end of November there were 106 recorded drug offences in the town – compared to 135 for the same period last year.

Det Supt Steve Mattin, of Suffolk police, said officers worked closely with pubs and clubs in the town to encourage a zero tolerance policy on drugs. Sophisticated Ion Track machines were used, together with sniffer dogs to detect even the smallest traces of drugs.

He said the majority of the offences in Newmarket had been detected as a result of police "pro-active" operations or tip-offs from the community.

He said: "Information from communities in Suffolk is vital in identifying those persons and areas affected by the misuse of drugs, and we welcome that information via our Safer Neighbourhood Teams or anonymously on Crimestoppers.

"It is key that residents work with us and report any suspicious activity so we can disrupt the trade of these substances and in turn reduce associated criminality such as theft and burglary, combat anti-social behaviour and make these areas more pleasant, safer places to live."

He appealed for anyone with information about drug-related activities to tell the police on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Anyone with drink or drug problems in Newmarket can call the Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) helpline on (01473) 299640 between 9am and 6pm, Monday to Friday to get advice and information.

For help to fight drug use, log on to *www.talktofrank.com* or phone 0800 776600.

Holiday complex raided

BICYCLES worth thousands of pounds were stolen from a holiday complex.

Six bikes belonging to guests at the Center Parcs Elveden Forest village, near Mildenhall, were stolen on the same night.

They are the latest in a series of thefts of expensive bikes from the complex.

They include two women's Specialised Hardrock mountain bikes, a man's Specialised Hardrock bike, a Cove XC mountain bike, a black GT Avalanche bike and a yellow Marin Shoreline Trail bike.

They were all taken from outside villas in the complex which is popular for short-break holidays.

Anyone with information about the thefts which happened between 10.30pm on Monday, December 7, and 8.30am the next day should call Suffolk police Crime Investigation Bureau (CIB) on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers 0800 555111.

Theft from buggy

A MOBILE phone and a pair of designer sunglasses, together worth more than £800, were stolen from a children's buggy left outside public toilets.

The theft happened outside the toilets in Newmarket's Guineas Shopping Centre while the owner was inside.

Anyone with information about the theft, which happened between 2.30pm and 3pm on Monday, December 7, should call the Suffolk police Crime Investigation Bureau (CIB) on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers 0800 555111.

Mini crane stolen

A MINI crane was stolen together with tools when a parked van was broken into.

Padlocks were removed from the doors of a white Ford Transit van parked in Old Station Road, Newmarket. The Penny Hydraulics mini crane and a toolbox, together worth around £330, were stolen between 4.30pm on Monday, December 7, and 7.30am the next day.

Anyone with information should contact Suffolk police's Crime Investigation Bureau (CIB) on (01473) 613500 or Crimestoppers 0800 555111.

Feeling unwell this winter? There's a range of NHS Services available on your doorstep

Self-care	Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries. A range of common winter illnesses and injuries can be treated at home simply by combining a well-stocked medicine cabinet with plenty of rest.
NHS Direct	For information on all aspects of health and health care, go to www.nhs.uk. It allows you to check your symptoms, check hundreds of conditions and treatments and find telephone numbers and addresses for most NHS organisations, including hospitals and GPs or call 0845 46 47.
Pharmacist	Visit your pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem that does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor. Your pharmacist can provide advice on common winter illnesses and the best medicines to treat them.
GP	If you have an illness or injury that just will not go away, make an appointment with your local GP. They provide a range of services by appointment, including medical advice, examinations and prescriptions. When absolutely essential, GPs can also provide home visits out-of-hours.
NHS Walk-in Centre and Minor Injury Units	Walk-in centres and Minor Injury Units treat minor illnesses and injuries that do not need a visit to A&E. For more information go to www.nhs.uk
A&E 999	Accident and Emergency departments should only be used in a critical or life-threatening situation. A&E departments provide immediate emergency care for people who show the symptoms of serious illness or are badly injured. Dialing 999 and stating a medical emergency will result in a response vehicle being sent to your location.

Pharmacy Opening Times for Christmas and the New Year	
Friday 25th December 2009	**Opening hours**
Numark Pharmacy – 2 Adkins Corner, Cambridge	10.00am - 2.00pm
Saturday 26th December 2009	**Opening hours**
Boots – Retail Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge	9.00am - 6.00pm
Boots – 28 Petty Cury, Cambridge	8.30am - 6.00pm
Kays Chemist Ltd – 39 Wulfstan Court, Cambridge	9.00am - 1.00pm
Lloydspharmacy – 57 High Street, Burwell	10.00am - 3.00pm
Lloydspharmacy – 9 High Street, Cambourne	10.00am - 1.00pm
Lloydspharmacy – 30 Trumpington Street, Cambridge	10.00am - 1.00pm
Lloydspharmacy – 46-47 Arbury Court, Cambridge	10.00am - 3.00pm
Milton Road Pharmacy – 123 Milton Road, Cambridge	9.00am - 1.00pm
Numark Pharmacy – 2 Adkins Corner, Cambridge	7.00am - 7.00pm
Superdrug Pharmacy - 59 Sidney Street, Cambridge	8.30am - 6.00pm
The Co-operative Pharmacy – 183 Mill Road, Cambridge	10.00am - 4.00pm
Village Pharmacy – 49 High Street, Linton	9.00am - 1.00pm
Monday 28th December 2009	**Opening hours**
Alliance Pharmacy – 25 High Street, Sawston	10.00am - 3.00pm
ASDA Pharmacy – Beehive Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge	9.00am - 6.00pm
Boots – 28 Petty Cury, Cambridge	10.00am - 5.00pm
Boots – Retail Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge	9.00am - 6.00pm
Goodwill Pharmacy – 189 Histon Road, Cambridge	9.00am - 1.00pm
Tesco Instore Pharmacy – Yarrow Road, Fulbourn	8.00am - midnight
Tesco Instore Pharmacy – Cambridge Road, Milton	8.00am – 8.00pm
Friday 1st January 2010	**Opening hours**
ASDA Pharmacy – Beehive Centre, Cambridge	9.00am - 6.00pm
Boots – Retail Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge	9.00am - 6.00pm

Patient Advice & Liaison Service

The PALS office will be closed 25 & 28 December 2009 and 1 January 2010.

Open 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Monday - Friday
Freephone 0800 279 2535

Contraception and Sexual Health Services

The Laurels, Cambridge - Contraception & Sexual Health Clinic
closed: 25, 26, 28 December & 1 January

GU Medicine Clinic, Princess of Wales Hospital, Ely
closed: 25,26 28 December & 1 January

GU Medicine Clinic, North Cambs Hospital, Wisbech
closed: 25, 26, 28 December & 1 January

Emergency contraception can be obtained from your GP or a pharmacist.

Choose well.

NHS Walk-in Centre

St Neots Health Centre, 24 Moores Walk, St Neots PE19 1AG (01480 219317)

Open Monday to Sunday 8am to 8pm

To access your **GP** or **Dentist** out of hours or when the surgery is closed over the Christmas period please telephone your surgery as normal. You will either be given a number to call or your call will be automatically re-directed.

NHS Cambridgeshire

Family Announcements

01638 662581

Deaths

BEAUMONT. John Louis George of Bexley, formerly of Willingham, passed peacefully away, Wednesday, December 9th, 2009.

EASTER. David of Cambridge, died peacefully at home on Sunday, December 6th, 2009. Beloved husband of Peggy, devoted father of Susan and Peter and much loved grandpa of Matthew, Lucy, Stuart and Daniel. Funeral Service in the West Chapel, Cambridge City Crematorium, on Thursday, December 17th, at 1.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations payable to either MAGPAS or East Anglian Air Ambulance welcomed and may be left at the service or sent c/o Cambridge Funeral Services, 617 Newmarket Road, Cambridge.

ELLIS. Kathleen Margaret, passed peacefully away at Addenbrooke's Hospital on Saturday, December 5th, 2009, aged 89 years. Much loved cousin and friend to many. Funeral service at St Mary's Parish Church, Great Shelford, on Friday, December 18th, at 11.30am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please but if desired donations made payable to Gt Shelford PCC (for the church fund) may be sent c/o Geoffrey Heathcock at R J Pepper & Son Funeral Directors, 8 Morley's Place, High Street, Sawston, Cambridge. CB22 3TG, or at the service. Tel: 01223 836240.

FACER. Ivy of Duxford, passed peacefully to rest on Tuesday, December 1st, 2009, aged 88 years. Beloved wife of the late Reg, mum to Geoff and wife Linda, gran to Neil and Paul and their wives Michelle and Steffi and great-gran to Oliver, Joseph, Amber, Emily and Sophie. A wonderful caring person very sadly missed by all. Funeral service at Duxford United Reformed Church, on Monday, December 21st, at 12.00noon. Followed by interment in the Parish Cemetery. Family flowers only please but if desired donations made payable for Stroke and Rehab Unit Addenbrooke's to R Skeates Funeral Directors, 45 Moorfield Road, Duxford, Cambridge. Tel: 01223 833463.

GANDY. Christopher, peacefully on Wednesday, December 9th, 2009, aged 92 years. Formerly of Oxford. A much loved brother of Jill and the late Robin and will be sadly missed by all the family and friends. Funeral service at Cambridge City Crematorium, on Tuesday, December 22nd, at 1.00pm, East Chapel. Family flowers only please but if desired donations made payable for Alzheimer's Society to R Skeates Funeral Directors, 45 Moorfield Road, Duxford, Cambridge. Tel: 01223 833463.

News Classified 01223 43 43 43

Funeral Directors

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'News' Classifieds
9.00am - 5.30pm Monday - Friday
Tel: 0122343 43 43

Lottery grants up for grabs

COMMUNITY groups across the East of England are being encouraged to apply for lottery grants.

The Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All programme gave a total of £212,665 to 28 groups across the region in the latest round of awards.

Awards included £5,200 to Ridgewell Parish Council, £5,581 to Linton Parish Council, £4,524 to the Hundon Parish Plan Steering Group and £6,500 to the West Suffolk Voluntary Organisation for the Blind.

Now the fund is inviting other groups to apply for support.

Sara Betsworth, Big Lottery Fund head of region for East of England said: "As the new year approaches people take a step back and look at what they are doing for themselves, their families, and perhaps even their communities.

"An Awards for All grant can help make this happen

Full details of all the Big Lottery Fund programmes and grants are available on the website *www.biglotteryfund.org.uk*

Council wins praise

EDUCATION, children's services and recycling are the public services performing well in Cambridgeshire, according to a new report.

The OnePlace report just published said the county council was performing well overall – giving it three of out four for key indicators of managing performance and use of resources.

The report by the Audit Commission and other watchdogs said the council improved more than three-quarters of issues it identified as most important, and leadership was strong.

It added councillors effectively championed community issues.

There was praise for children's services, waste management and transport planning, while recycling rates were among the best in the country.

Educational achievement at the age of 11 and 16 was high and overall achievement at 19 was good, with a high proportion of young people either in education, employment or training. However, some secondary school and sixth form provision was only adequate and being addressed.

The report said levels of crime were rising and too many people were killed or injured on county roads.

Woodland fun: two youngsters enjoy some tree planting. CP

Brownies and Guides put down new roots

BROWNIES and Guides helped to plant 500 trees and hedging plants at their residential centre.

The groups from Cambridge and Brinkley took part in the planting effort at the Jarman centre in Newmarket which is owned by Girlguiding Cambridgeshire East.

A major revamp of the building has been completed and now work is continuing in the grounds of the centre, which extend over about 30 acres.

The new planting comprises a range of native species including hawthorn, ash and oak.

This continues the work started last year when 2,000 hedging plants were put in as part of Girlguiding UK's Changing the World community action project.

The planting event was supported by eForests, which funds and supports carbon reduction, sustainable energy and tree-planting projects around the country.

Toni-ann Hammond, the Jarman Centre's volunteer estate manager, said: "Planting these trees at the Jarman Centre will help to make a real difference to our environment.

"The hedging in particular will allow wildlife to move around while still securing our boundaries in a sustainable manner.

"This work also enables our young Guiding members to have the chance to enjoy the great outdoors while learning about their environment."

The Jarman Centre is in use almost every weekend and evenings throughout the year by members across Cambridgeshire and beyond.

It is also used by Scouting and other local youth groups. It is also available for use by businesses and other organisations.

For further information visit *www.cambseastguides.org.uk/jarmancentre*

Time running out for councils in shake-up

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

COUNCILS opposing a shake-up of local government are preparing to fight proposals which could see eight councils replaced with a single unitary authority.

Councils, including those covering Newmarket and Haverhill, could be replaced with a single unitary council for the whole of Suffolk if the government accepts the advice given by the Boundary Committee for England.

The alternative could be a separate council for the Ipswich and Felixstowe area with the rest of Suffolk covered by a single council.

It would mean the existing councils including Forest Heath, which covers Newmarket and Mildenhall, as well as St Edmundsbury, which covers Haverhill and Bury St Edmunds, will disappear. But town and parish councils will remain.

Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury are among a group of councils which have argued for three new unitary bodies for Suffolk – one for the west of the county, one for the east and one for the Ipswich and Felixstowe areas.

The councils have fought a legal battle over the issue which ended with an Appeal Court ruling in favour of the Boundary Committee.

But a Forest Heath spokeswoman said further legal moves were being considered together with an appeal direct to the Secretary of State.

Local Government Minister Rosie Winterton has confirmed that there will now be six weeks for affected councils and other stakeholders in these areas to give their views on the unitary proposals before the Government decides whether to put any proposals to Parliament.

She said: "We want to see councils that are best able to play their part at the heart of providing innovative and better value public services across the counties.

"It is very important that all who are interested in the future governance of these areas take this opportunity to comment on these proposals."

Amnesty on trade signs

AN amnesty on legal action over unauthorised advertising boards has been confirmed by town councillors.

Members of Newmarket Town Council, who originally called for a clamp-down on the "clutter" of A-boards and other signs in the town's High Street, have now asked Forest Heath District Council and Suffolk County Council to suspend action.

The amnesty will run to the end of this month for High Street traders and will continue into next year for shops and businesses off the High Street who display signs on the pavement to attract customers.

Town councillors have promised to work with the traders and other councils to come up with acceptable alternative signs to advertise the businesses.

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

Meetings are due to be held in January to discuss the issue.

A number of businesses in side streets complained to the council when they were warned that their unauthorised signs in the High Street could be confiscated.

Businesses in Sun Lane, Wellington Street, Market Street, Old Station Road and Crown Walk said they lost passing trade when they were unable to display signs in the High Street.

Julie Eden, who runs Coffee and Co in Palace Street, told councillors that a ban on signs would mean the closure of a number small independent shops and businesses that rely on passing trade.

"Independent traders are what make Newmarket a place worth visiting," she said.

"Do you really want to see businesses in Newmarket close?"

Cllr Glenn Edge said: "We're in damage limitation. We made a mistake and there's got to be a compromise.

"We have got to work with our traders."

Cllr Mick Jefferys, deputy mayor, said the council did not want to harm businesses but wanted to find an acceptable solution to replacing the A-board signs.

The council decided, after considering alternative wording, to recommend an amnesty on action by the district and county councils to allow time for alternative approved signs to be designed.

Artist could be a Kentucky winner

In our weekly column, reporter JOHN GOODE takes a look behind the racing scene to bring you news from in and around the stables.

AN artist from the Newmarket area could be chosen to paint a life-size horse made of glass fibre.

The competition winner will receive an expenses-paid trip to Lexington, Kentucky, the American horse racing centre which is linked with Newmarket.

Lexington has launched a public art project called Horse Mania which will involve other towns which are linked with it.

A series of life-size horses will be displayed in Lexington next summer as part of the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games which it is hosting.

The chosen artist, who can be professional or amateur but must be over 18, will stay in Lexington for two weeks to complete their work. In December next year the paintings will be sold at the Keeneland racehorse sales with 10 per cent of the amount raised from the Newmarket entry going towards the twinning programme.

The Newmarket entries will be judged by the mayor, Cllr Jane Bailey, chairman of Lexington Link committee and a teacher from the art department at Newmarket College.

Designs must be submitted to Sue Hines, The British Racing School, Snailwell Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7NU by January 15.

Previous entries can be viewed at *www.horseracing.about.com/library/weekly/aa070600g.htm*

Racing personalities at course for managers

SOME of the top personalities in horse racing will be guest speakers at a course to be held at the British Racing School in Newmarket.

They include Nic Coward, chief executive of the British Horseracing Authority, Ian Balding, former racehorse trainer for the Royal family, and Brough Scott, racing journalist and television presenter.

The course, which runs from February 1 to 5, is aimed at managers in the industry. It is organised through the British Horseracing Authority and sponsored by Weatherby's, racing's record keepers.

It includes a visit to the racehorse sales at Tattersalls, a trip to Sheikh Mohammed's Darley horse breeding operation and a dinner in the Jockey Club rooms in Newmarket.

The fee for the residential course is £1,200. For more information visit *www.brstric.com*, or alternatively contact Ginny Lancaster on (01638) 665103 or *ginny@brs.org.uk*

Guest: racing journalist and TV presenter Brough Scott joins a host of speakers.

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SALE STARTS Saturday Dec 19th at 9.30am

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Christmas / New Year Opening:
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Dec 25th - CLOSED
Dec 26 -CLOSED
Dec 27th - Dec 31st 10.00am to 4.00pm
Jan 1st - CLOSED

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Trees need some TLC too

Keeping your tree looking good isn't a bit deal: But it does make a big difference to festive fun.

IF you buy a real Christmas tree, how can you make sure it stays looking its best over the festive season?

Some 30 per cent of people in the UK do buy the real thing each year, yet many are often left with more needles on the floor than on the tree within a week of putting it up – especially if they haven't chosen a non-drop variety such as the ever-popular Nordmann fir.

But if you give any Yuletide tree the care it needs, it shouldn't drop too much, says Roger Hay, secretary of the British Christmas Tree Growers' Association.

"If you look after trees properly, most of them should look good throughout the festive season," he says.

"The spruces will drop before the fir trees or the pine trees, but if you look after them they should be good for six weeks."

Cut trees remain the most popular, and it is essential that they should be fresh when purchased. The needles should not be dull and dried up, the branches not brittle. If you gently shake the tree, the outer needles should not fall off.

When you've bought your tree, keep it outside in a cool, shaded place, preferably standing in water, until it is required indoors.

Before bringing it inside, cut about half an inch off the base of the trunk to open up the pores of the tree and then place it securely in a water-holding stand or wedge it in a bucket with pebbles, small stones or screwed-up newspaper and place it away from direct heat. Anyone who places the tree next to a radiator is asking for trouble.

Keep the container topped up with water every day, as trees can get through a pint a day.

About 8.5 million trees are sold in this country every Christmas, of which half are Nordmann firs. Hay prefers the Fraser fir (Abies fraseri) which is popular in the eastern United States – it is narrower than other trees and therefore more suitable for smaller rooms.

"Look for growers who are situated in an isolated place away from urban centres. They are less likely to get a big retail market and you may get a better deal and a better tree from them," says Hay.

Some people may opt for a tree that will last for years. "If you are looking for a tree you can plant in the garden afterwards, go for a container-grown tree. You can plant it out after Christmas and may be able to bring it in again next year," Hay says.

You should put it in a sheltered spot initially and slowly acclimatise it to the open before planting in its final home, making sure the root collar is at ground level and to water it in well.

Visit *www.bctga.co.uk* for more information.

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The George and Dragon. 31 The Street, Snailwell, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7LX
www.thegeorgeanddragonsnailwell.co.uk

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Sat 19th Dec

Karaoke with Clive
Sat 26th Dec

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21, The Causeway, Burwell
01638 742215

Weekly News regional round-up

Help us keep you informed. We want your news. If your village or club is planning an event, let us know. If your organisation recently had an interesting meeting, let us have a report. Write to John Goode at *Newmarket Weekly News*, 15 High Street, Newmarket, CB8 8XL or email *editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk*

Mildenhall

Mildenhall Parish Council welcomed four students from Mildenhall College of Technology, including Mert Karatas, head boy, to talk to members about ideas for the formation of a youth council.

There was a good two-way exchange of ideas, with both sides agreeing that further exploration of the subject should be carried out at a 'non-council' meeting later this month, when it is hoped even more ideas will be forthcoming, perhaps based on the idea of the current school council.

One of the things which pleased the elected members was to hear that at the last elections, a good number of the senior students (those who had attained the 18-year voting age) wanted to participate in the process and to take part in the democratic system. Another major project studied by parish councillors was the discussion which had taken place with the principal of the local community radio station Zeta FM 103.5.

A variety of ways for the council to be involved in disseminating information were discussed between chairman Brian Sulman, his CEO Mrs Caroline Steggles and Jeff Davis from the radio station, which had already contributed to Organisations Day in August.

■ Two parcels of land just inside the parish boundary of Mildenhall with its neighbour, Beck Row with Kenny Hill and Holywell Row, have proved to be a bit of a stumbling block during recent discussions about their future.

It is now known that, while Hurst Fen is the responsibility of the Mildenhall parish charities group, the parcel of land known as Howlett Hills is common land and therefore still the responsibility of the parish council.

With a group of volunteers ready and willing to work there, in accordance with a management agreement with Forest Heath District Council, councillors supported a budget reserve of £2,000, should there be unexpected expenditure.

In the meantime, the parish charities through their clerk are liaising with Forest Heath regarding management of their particular site after the current lease expires next April.

As the people of Hollywell Row have ancient rights in the area, there was disagreement about who could vote on the matter, the decision finally being supported, with one member voting against and one other, having an interest, declaring this and therefore abstaining.

■ The treasurer of Beck Row Thursday Club was kept extremely busy at their meeting, with both chairman and secretary unwell and unable to assist her and vice-chairman Margaret Westgate in running the meeting.

In addition to her financial duties, which also involved collecting monies for last Thursday's Christmas lunch, treasurer Pat Barker, was also the club's speaker for the afternoon's session.

With the Christmas season now upon us, the subject could not really have been bettered as she talked about various customs and recipes from around the world, in Europe and further afield. After the lunch at Worlington Hall Hotel, club members have a break before discussing next year's programme (especially the outside visits) at their first meeting in January.

■ The enforced change of venue due to a double booking at their earlier site had an extraordinary effect on members of the Mildenhall and District Town Twinning Association when they met in the splendid village hall at Freckenham.

Not only did they enjoy the facilities there enormously, by dint of hard work and some splendid donations of cash, refreshments and prizes, it meant that the whole affair ended with a small cash profit.

Chairman Tony Bristow had, on this occasion, eschewed the regular 'music rounds', which went down well with the competitors in this social quiz. Some were attending for the first time, to help support one of the longest-running groups in the district.

Technically, four teams were beavering away at the questions, which encompassed a wide range of general knowledge, the final result being a victory for three lady contestants who duly received wine and biscuits as a reward for their endeavours.

The twinning association will be holding another bowls afternoon in January, at the West Row Club, with a social tea and possibly another short quiz. This will be followed on April 1 by the annual meeting when it is hoped to hear more about the proposed reciprocal trip to Luc-sur-Mer, the twin town on the coast of Normandy, which is on the list for the May Bank Holiday.

John Barker

30st man died in stretcher fall

A 30-STONE man died on the pavement outside his home after ambulance staffed accidentally dropped him from a stretcher.

Kenny Williams, 55, died in front of horrified family and neighbours outside the bungalow he shared with his wife Monica, 63, on March 1 this year.

The grandfather-of-four had called the NHS for an ambulance to his home in Newmarket, after becoming breathless and feeling ill.

But the East of England Ambulance Service was unable to send a special ambulance suitable for a man of Kenny's weight.

BY RACHEL EXTANCE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

Instead they sent a private crew, and as two paramedics struggled to carry Kenny from the house he toppled off the stretcher and slammed into the concrete drive.

Seconds later he died.

The ambulance service has since launched a review into its procedures for transporting obese patients.

More than 3,700 "adverse incident" reports have been received this year by the service, which says it aims to use fewer private crews in the future.

A spokesman said: "We sometimes need to call on a private ambulance service for a specialist ambulance vehicle to convey patients whose body weight exceeds 25-30 stone.

"This case is currently subject to litigation so cannot be discussed.

"A serious untoward incident report (SUI) was declared and this incident was reported in the press.

"The trust fleet strategy has been revised to incorporate a greater bariatric capacity which means that in future we will rely less on outside agencies to convey patients in this category."

Around the tree: pupils from Kennett Primary School sing carols. CP

Afternoon of carols for primary singers

VILLAGE school pupils sang carols to potential house buyers on a new development.

Youngsters from Kennett Primary School sang at the Martingales development in Red Lodge.

Angela Roebuck, the school's acting head, said: "I would like to thank the developers, David Wilson, for their invitation for the children to sing Christmas carols. We very much enjoy being involved in community events and it provides an excellent opportunity for the children to perform to a different audience.

"We had a wonderful afternoon and we are very grateful to David Wilson for their kind donation of £150, which will go towards brass instrumental lessons."

Rebecca Littler, sales director at David Wilson Eastern, thanked the school for singing to visitors at the show home.

Yule regret it is message to burglars

CHRISTMAS cards will be hand-delivered to suspected burglars as part of a crime crackdown.

Detectives in Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire will deliver the Yuletide police messages to anyone they suspect of being involved in burglary.

The Christmas campaign, which began on Monday, will also see increased burglary patrols and warrants for stolen goods being carried out.

Traditionally over the Christmas period detectives see an increase in burglary.

In southern division – which includes Cambridge city, South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire – between December 2006 and January 2007 there were 315 house burglaries.

Between December 2007 and January 2008 there were 240 and between December 2008 and January 2009 there were 394.

The Christmas card reads: "Just to remind you that if you offend this Christmas, you may well miss out on all the festivities.

"Cambridgeshire police would like to warn you to keep out of trouble. The Burglary Squad are working over the Christmas period.

"Have a Merry Christmas! From your Burglary Squad Team."

Members of the burglary team from Parkside police station will visit every known person who is linked to burglaries to deliver a Christmas card from the force. Shift officers will then continue visiting those individuals throughout the Christmas period.

Detective Inspector Adam Gallop said: "We will deliver the cards to anyone we have intelligence on as being potentially involved in burglary. The card will remind them that we are watching them and we won't tolerate criminal behaviour. Where we have enough evidence, we will naturally make arrests.

"Burglary at any time of the year is upsetting but potentially more so at Christmas when everyone's minds turn to celebrations and festivities.

"The thought of waking up to find Christmas presents stolen, or jewellery taken, or money to pay for presents gone, is stomach-turning.

"We will be working tirelessly to reduce levels of burglary and ensure our residents have a happy Christmas."

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Fighting fit: Sam Corti who was given a 50/50 chance of survival. 609929.

Mum looks ahead following cancer

BY ALICE RYAN

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

STANDING in her kitchen, boiling the kettle for a pot of her favourite green tea, Sam Corti admits this will be a very special Christmas. This time last year, the mum-of-two was battling advanced cervical cancer; doctors had given her just a 50/50 chance of survival. Now Sam is cancer-free – and she's ready to celebrate.

"It's going to be a great Christmas," smiles Sam, as she fills the tea pot. "We've got all the family coming and that's just what I want: for us all to be together. This time last year I was going into battle; I knew it was going to be the hardest battle I'd ever fought in my life . . . Now I can relax and enjoy myself. And I can look forward – I can look to the future."

Sitting down at the table, a mug of freshly-poured sencha in hand, Sam, 40, explains she was diagnosed with cancer last winter. Very advanced, it had spread from her cervix and up her abdomen; she had a huge tumour wrapped around her bowel. And she also had secondaries in her lymph system. All in all, the prognosis was pretty grim.

But, thanks to a combination of conventional medicine, positive thought and, says Sam, a radical anti-cancer diet, she beat the disease. It was, she smiles, little less than a miracle.

"I had a four-week wait for my surgery," Sam explains. "And in that time I followed a strict 'anti-cancer diet': I cut out sugar and dairy and wheat, ate lots of anti-oxidants like ginger and turmeric and drank lots of green tea.

"When they took me into theatre they couldn't find the tumour in my bowel. It was still there, but it had shrunk beyond all recognition. As I said, it was a miracle really."

Sam's battle with cancer actually began almost two decades ago, when she was only 20 years old. "I went for a smear test, I think it was the first one I'd ever had," she recalls.

Prescribed two operations, to excise the cancerous cells, Sam says it was a far from pleasant experience. But she remembers feeling remarkably unfazed: "This time round I was absolutely panic-stricken," she says, "but then it never crossed my mind I wouldn't recover, which I did; I was perfectly fine."

After her surgery, Sam was given frequent check-ups. But, other than that, she says life returned to normal. Settling in London, she threw herself into a career in media sales; among other things, she worked for *Time* magazine. And then, 11 years ago, she met her now-husband Mick.

"We got married and, after a couple of years, started trying for a baby," says Sam, who lives in Brampton. "But nothing happened. In all, it took three years to conceive Joseph. They said the problem was a build-up of scar tissue, left over from my operations all those years before.

"So we went down the route of fertility treatment and I got pregnant first time, but then I had a miscarriage. You reach a point where everyone you know seems to be getting pregnant; there are babies wherever you look. And you do start to feel very isolated, and a bit victimised. You think 'Why me? Why is my body not doing what it should?'"

Then, out of the blue, Joseph was conceived naturally. "He was a little miracle too," laughs Sam, "and he seemed to open the flood-gates: when he was only six months old, I got pregnant with his brother, Nathan."

Giving up work to become a fulltime mum, Sam says she adored motherhood from the word go. When she and Mick decided to move out of the capital three years ago it was, she explains, because they wanted their beloved boys to grow up surrounded by open spaces and a warm community; Brampton was the perfect place.

"We fell in love with this house," adds Sam, looking round her beautiful beamed home. "And I made a real effort to get to know people here; I ran a playgroup on the High Street and met lots of mums that way."

But, though the family soon settled in, it was just after the house move that Sam's health took a downward turn: she started spotting – bleeding at odd times of the month, before her period was due. "I'd stopped having smears

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to New Year fight 'miracle'

when I had the children; you can't have them when you're pregnant," she explains. "When I noticed the spotting I went straight to the doctor and had a smear, which came back clear. Because of my history, he still referred me for an examination, but that showed everything was fine too."

Reassured, Sam put the problem out of her mind. But then, a few months later, she started getting bad period pains, again at the wrong time of the month. Consulting a GP she was told to "take Nurofen"; refusing to take that as an answer, she sought a second opinion. Referred for tests, including an ultrasound, Sam's worst fears were confirmed: the cancer was back.

Exploratory surgery at Addenbrooke's revealed the large tumour in Sam's bowel; she was told the cancer was "at stage 4A – and the scale only goes up to 4B". "I can remember lying there with my mum standing one side and Mick on the other," says Sam, with a shudder. "My first question was 'Am I going to die? . . . You're so much more aware of your mortality – and what that really means – when you have kids.

"The doctor told me I had a 50 per cent chance. I was 39, the boys were three and four. And I couldn't believe it. I just couldn't believe it."

Sam was told she needed a 12-hour operation: a full hysterectomy, removal of the tumour in her gut (along, most likely, with a chunk of her bowel, which would result in her having a colostomy bag), and the excision of a whole series of lymph nodes. When she came round from the anaesthetic, she'd be in intensive care. And she would need weeks of chemo and radiotherapy after that.

"Next day I came out of Addenbrooke's and we went to see some friends; they'd been looking after the boys," continues Sam. "I remember sitting there with a glass of wine and some crisps and feeling a bit stunned, to be honest. Everyone was saying they couldn't believe it . . .

"Suddenly I put down my glass of wine and pushed the crisps away. I said to Mick 'I can't just sit here and do this, I can't just go along on this road: I have to do something; I have to take some control'."

That night, Sam started researching anti-cancer diets on the internet. And the more she read, the more positive she began to feel. Cutting out foods said to feed cancer cells (wheat, sugar, dairy) and introducing anti-inflammatory foodstuffs (such as ginger and turmeric), Sam says she was "incredibly focused". "For those four weeks, I even took my own food to parties," she admits, "and I went on the school run with a yellow face, because of the amount of turmeric I was eating. Ironically, I'd never felt better."

Eating nuts, seeds and whole oats soaked in soya milk for breakfast, curry (heavy on the turmeric) for lunch and plenty of fresh veg for dinner, Sam also lost an entire dress size in that month, going from a 12 to a 10.

Along with her diet, Sam says positive thinking helped her cope. "Not that I didn't have down times, I did," she admits, "but I didn't have many. I vividly remember sitting in the front room one day and watching the boys playing with their dad in the garden. Suddenly I imagined I wasn't there, and they were still playing . . . It was awful.

"But I would look at them and feel inspired too: they gave me something to fight for – I wanted to be here to see them grow up."

Before going in for her op, Sam told the boys she had cancer. "They were too small to understand really," she says, "but they knew the word 'cancer' because sadly my dad died of cancer the week before I was diagnosed. I told them I was poorly and had to have a big operation, and that Daddy would be looking after them and Mummy for a while. But I also told them I was going to get better."

When Sam came round from the anaesthetic, she was stunned – and initially horrified – to find no colostomy bag. "I thought something had gone horribly wrong," she admits. "In fact, it had all gone very right. I had the hysterectomy, as planned, but, because the tumour had shrunk so much, they didn't need to remove my bowel. And, of the nine lymph nodes they removed, only one turned out to be cancerous.

"During the operation, which only lasted four hours, they downgraded me from 4A to 1B. One of the surgeons came to see me and said 'I can't believe what I've just witnessed. I saw that tumour with my own eyes four weeks ago; when we got you into theatre we couldn't find it. It's a miracle'."

Though Sam still needed five weeks of chemo, then five weeks of radiotherapy, her prognosis had been transformed. And she gives much of the credit to her anti-cancer diet – including copious amounts of green tea, known for its anti-oxidant properties.

"I would never say 'Don't bother with chemo or surgery': they were my lifelines, there's no doubt about that," adds Sam. "But I do want people to realise there's so much they can do to help themselves, to take back some control. When you get cancer you feel like a victim; doing something positive, taking charge, helps so much."

During her recovery, Sam continued to research green tea. Believing the tea to have genuine health benefits, not only for people fighting cancer, she wanted to spread the word – and so set up Tea 4 Life, her own online tea shop.

Selling five different blends, designed to promote everything from healing and calming to increased energy and weightloss, Sam says her site is designed to be a kind of meeting-place for like-minded people.

"I really hope my story will be an inspiration to people," she adds. "This time a year ago, I knew the New Year held chemo and radiotherapy; now I'm fit and well and the New Year is something I can really look forward to. How great is that?"

■ SAM'S online tea shop, *www.tea4life.co.uk*, sells five different blends of green and white tea: Simply Sencha, Detox Tea, Thinny Tea, Super Boost Tea and Chill Out Tea. Sam says all the teas, which are sold loose leaf, are fresh and full of goodness – with no added nasties. Prices start at £5.95 for a 50g bag.

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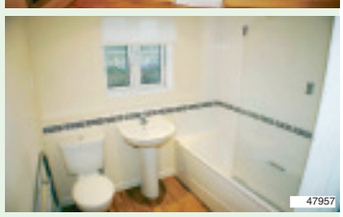

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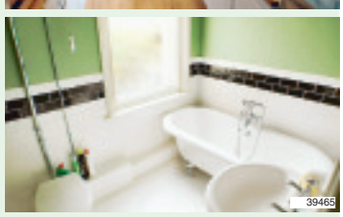

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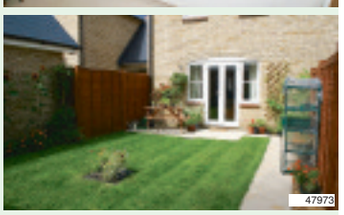

Burwell **£209,000**
A well presented 3 bedroom semi-detached house with en-suite shower room, a well equipped fitted kitchen/breakfast room, cloakroom, a South facing garden, garage and parking. NO CHAIN.

Acknowledgement: Michael Whatley, of Newmarket's Whatley Lane and Co Solicitors, accepts a certificate from Margaret Lee, the hospice's legacy promotions officer. CP

Solicitors forfeit fees for hospice care

A TOTAL of £26,545 has been donated to St Nicholas Hospice Care from Wills Weeks 2009.

The annual scheme sees local solicitors forfeit their usual fees for drawing up wills, in exchange for a donation to the charity.

This year 15 solicitors from across West Suffolk and Thetford took part and gave their time for free.

More than 175 wills were prepared or existing ones revised during the scheme.

Among the solicitors taking part were Whatley Lane and Co from Newmarket.

Margaret Lee, St Nicholas Hospice Care Legacy Officer, said: "We have simply been blown away by the amount raised through Wills Week in 2009.

"The amount raised actually doubled what we did in 2008 and that was an exceptional total in itself.

"We are so grateful to everyone who supported the initiative and to all the local solicitors who gave up their time so freely."

Wills Weeks ran throughout June across West Suffolk and Thetford.

Villagers bid to keep hall funds on track

BY JOHN GOODE

Email: editorial@newmarketweeklynews.co.uk

VILLAGERS were last night trying to convince district councillors not to cut funding expected to help pay for a long-awaited new hall.

Fundraising for the hall at Moulton has been going on for 10 years and work is due to start on the new building next month.

But villagers have been disappointed to find out that expected support from Forest Heath District Council has been cut from more than £160,000 to £100,000.

Bill Rampling, who chairs the parish council, was last night addressing a meeting of the district council to make a plea for the expected cash.

He said: "We were told we would get a third funding towards the overall cost of about £480,000.

"Now we have heard that at a meeting in November they decided to only give us £100,000. This was kept secret until last week.

"We thought we had cleared the final hurdle, but this was a blow."

The district council's capital programme working group, meeting in private last month, decided to award £100,000 to the new hall in Moulton and £50,000 to a similar project in the nearby village of Dalham.

A report of the meeting says that councillors asked that there should be a review of any outstanding cash at the next meeting.

The issue was being discussed at a meeting of Forest Heath District Council.

Workshop covers parking

RESIDENTS' parking zones as well as future parking charges were among issues considered at a workshop session run by council-appointed consultants in Newmarket.

Representatives of the town's horse-racing industry, businesses, schools, police and health service attended the session run by Colin Buchanan, the firm of consultants brought in by Forest Heath District Council.

Four top issues emerging from the session were parking in residential streets, the promotion of alternative transport and the future parking needs and charges.

Atholl Noon, of Colin Buchanan, said, after the session at the town's Palace House Mews: "The input from everyone was much appreciated, and has provided us with important information on a number of key parking issues across Newmarket that require consideration as part of the development of a long-term parking strategy for the town.

"We look forward to working with the community further on the development of options to address these issues."

Further meetings are planned in the New Year but any additional comments can be sent by email to *comms@forest-heath.gov.uk*

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Dance at the Palomino

NEWMARKET Conservative Club, which closed its premises nearly a year ago, will be staging a dance at the Palomino pub in Valley Way, Newmarket, on Saturday. The club members have continued to meet at the Palomino while a decision is made about whether to acquire new premises.

The dance is open to non-members and will feature music by Panache, at 8pm.

The former Conservative Club in Exeter Road is set to be leased to Newmarket Snooker Centre for five years after a vote by members.

Headliners in hall concert

THE current line-up of 1980's band The Beat are due to play at Newmarket's Memorial Hall on Monday, December 21 as part of a Christmas tour.

The band, one of the headliners at the Fordhamfest in the summer, will be supported by other acts including Cambridge band Freedom Faction.

Tickets, £10 in advance, from the Five Bells pub in Newmarket or by calling Angie 07968 586418. Tickets on the door are £12.

Think how you can help in the season of goodwill

In this month's column, Jane Carter, from The Voluntary Network, says that over the year more than 200 volunteers have been 'recruited'

Volunteer Centre Forest Heath

THE VOLUNTARY NETWORK
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Tel: (01638) 608048
Fax:(01638) 608029
email: *jane@thevoluntarynetwork.org*

Well it's that time of year again; and how quickly it seems to come round . . .

For most people it will be a time to relax and enjoy life; friends and family getting together, good food, with maybe a glass of wine or two thrown in as well!

But for many other people it is a different story; there are lots of people whose Christmas won't include any of the above and may be quite miserable or lonely. And as Christmas is the season of goodwill, maybe it's worth having a think about doing some voluntary work to help those less fortunate than yourself . . .

Here at The Volunteer Centre over the past year we have 'recruited' more than 200 new volunteers and placed them in over 300 volunteer roles – not bad going! That means a lot of people out there are receiving some extra help to improve their quality of life in one way or another, so I'd like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all our volunteers, old and new, and to let you know that your time and your willingness to help others in the community is really appreciated – by all of us here at The Centre, but especially by those whom you help and give your time to.

So, a big thank and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

SAVE HISTORIC NEWMARKET

HATCHFIELD FARM DEVELOPMENT - WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Lord Derby's proposed development to build 1,200 new homes, a hotel, restaurants, bars and 27,000m2 of office space on his Hatchfield Farm, a Greenfield site very close to our town centre, will:

- ***Add around 33% (5,000 people) to our population of 15,000,***
- ***Aggravate already heavy traffic congestion creating hazardous conditions,***
- ***Urbanize a traditional rural market town and make it into a dormitory town,***
- ***Make it unsuitable for training and breeding racehorses and result in the eventual demise of the town as the world's HQ of racing.***

The plan is being forced through by Robin Millar and some Conservative councillors, supposedly to satisfy housing requirement figures laid down by the current government. This is despite the facts that:

- ***Not one single house – let alone 1,200 – needs to be built on a Greenfield site in the area. There are enough Brownfield sites to meet current government targets.***
- ***It is not the time to push forward this needless development - with the election next year and the Conservative Party clearly stating that they will not keep the current housing targets.***
- ***The racing and breeding industry, which directly and indirectly provides more than 50% of Newmarket's jobs, will wither here if this development proceeds.***

If you feel that development of Hatchfield Farm is not in Newmarket's interests, please join Save Historic Newmarket Action Group and numerous others in our campaign to stop it.

What you can do:

You can help the Stop Hatchfield Farm Development Campaign by:

- Sign our Stop Hatchfield Petition on www.historicnewmarket.co.uk
- Write to Lord Derby at Knowsley Hall, Knowsley Park, Prescot, Liverpool, L34 4AG.
- Write to your local MP, Richard Spring; Caroline Spelman MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.
- Write to Forest Heath District Council c/o David Burnip CEO at FHDC, College Heath Road, Mildenhall, IP28 7EY.
- Voice your concerns at public meetings

Details on the above and further information can be found on www.historicnewmarket.co.uk

Save Historic Newmarket Limited, 57 Bury Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7BY
Tel: 01638 565455 - Email:save@historicnewmarket.co.uk
www.historicnewmarket.co.uk

Registered Office: 57 Bury Road, Newmarket, Suffolk,CB8 7BY Company No: 06743350 Directors: RDS Hood JJ W Wadham

WEEKLY NEWS THE GUIDE

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- What's showing on the big screen – Page 19
- All the weekend's TV viewing at a glance – Page 21

Julie comes back home for Christmas . . . and panto!

Cambridge's panto fave tells PAUL KIRKLEY about the luxury of staying at her parents' home for Christmas – and why she'll still be living with her twin sister Clare, even when she's a married woman.

CHRISTMAS for me isn't Christmas without panto," says Julie Buckfield of her return to Cambridge for her sixth year as the Arts Theatre's festive leading lady (or, more accurately, principal boy – this is her second stint as *Dick Whittington*, and she's also played the lead in *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Aladdin*).

"I've been getting excited since September. Brad [Fitt, director and dame par excellence] phoned me and said, 'I think I've got a rough draft of the script'. I said, 'Pleeease send it to me'. I get so excited. Because you know what you're coming back to – it's a totally different script, different songs, different ideas but it's seeing friendly faces and working with the same people.

"They're such a lovely bunch here. Rehearsals are hysterical – come 4 o'clock we've all got "the 4 o'clock funnies" – we can't even get a line out. It's a real team effort, from Brad writing and directing to Dave at the box office and Roger at stage door. Everybody knows each other and everybody says hello. It's been six years now, and I love it. I *love* it."

Team work: Julie as Dick Whittington with Matt Crosby as Idle Jack and Brad Fitt as Sarah the Cook. CP.

The 33-year-old former *Grange Hill* and *Hollyoaks* star also has another good reason for relishing her annual engagement at the Arts – it means she can stay with her parents in Fenstanton.

"A meal on the table every night, all your washing done? It's fantastic!" laughs Julie, taking a break from rehearsals backstage at the theatre. "What's lovely is, on Christmas Eve, everyone's like 'I've got to get back to Manchester, I've got to get back to Leeds', and I'm like, 20 minutes up the road!"

For Julie, whose older sister Karen lives in Swavesey, Cambridge has now become a second home.

"It's nice because the people of Cambridge always say hello to me," she says. "When I started having my car done by the mechanic near my parents', he said, 'I've been to every single one of your pantos'. So now he foolishly tells me when he's coming and he gets his name read out and a big wave, and he gets really embarrassed.

"Doing this job, I've been stuck in some rough places for Christmas," she laughs. "Actually I didn't – I drove home. But whenever I tell people where I'm working, they all go, 'Oh what a beautiful place to do panto'. And it is, because Cambridge is magical at Christmas. It's such a beautiful city."

Away from Cambridge, Julie still shares a house with her twin sister Clare, with whom she appeared in *Grange Hill*, and who went on to star in *2.4 Children* and, more recently, *Dancing On Ice*. In August next year, Julie is set to marry her fiancé Sam, who she describes as "a normal person" working in the IT industry. But even that won't mean saying goodbye to Clare.

"Oh no, we're still going to live together when I'm married," she says, as if the idea of one of them moving out had genuinely never occurred to her. "Me and Sam have the whole top floor. My sister and I are so close. Before I met Sam, I always used to say to Clare, 'What are we going to do? We're never going to meet the right man, we're going to be 80 years old, still living together, surrounded by cats, banging on the window and shouting, get out of my garden!'

"I miss her so much when I'm away. She's about to start panto rehearsals in Carlisle – she's doing *Dick Whittington* as well, but playing Alice."

Before she goes, I ask if Julie can clear something up for me. Sue Pollard once told me that panto was "the hardest work in the world, daahling", while Keith Chegwin insisted it wasn't really work at all – it was just "messing about". So who's right?

"It's a bit of both," says Julie diplomatically. "It is so much fun and, because it's not *Lear*, if things go wrong – if you trip up or you forget your line – you say, 'I'm sorry, I've had a day off', and you invite the audience to go along with it. They love it when anything goes wrong. So that keeps it fresh and keeps it enjoyable.

"They are long days but you know that when you sign the contract, so you don't complain. And, at the end of the day, to hear the audience's reaction and to have people waiting outside to meet you, it's just worth it – it's really, really worth it."

Dick Whittington and his Cat is on now at the Cambridge Arts Theatre and runs until January 17. Phone (01223) 503333 or go to *www.cambridgeartstheatre.com*

Leisure or events news? **email paul.kirkley@cambridge-news.co.uk call (01223) 434448**

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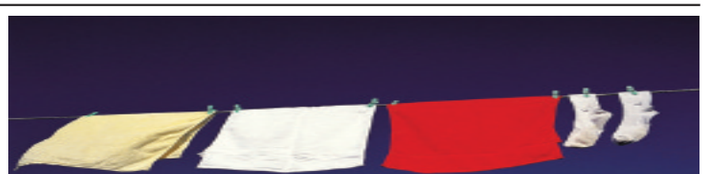

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Festive favourites

THE Fordham Charity Group's 17th Christmas Celebration Concert will take place at The Victoria Hall, Fordham, on Saturday, featuring The Wicken Coronation Band, singer Lizzie Futter, pianist Bridget Hickish – as well as plenty of carols for the audience.

The popular Wicken Coronation Band has appeared at every one of the group's festive concerts and Futter has many local musical theatre credits to her name, notably playing the lead role of Maria in *West Side Story* at the Theatre Royal in Norwich last year.

An accomplished pianist, Hickish has become the group's resident pianist at a host of musical events.

Tickets priced at £6 each are available from D. N. Jenkins TV shop in Fordham, Soham Books or by calling (01638) 720674.

All proceeds will be donated to the Staploe Medical Centre's Patients Transport Service Fund. The concert starts at 7.30pm.

Curry and a laugh

JESTERLARF moves over to J1 at The Junction in Cambridge on Monday for its Christmas Party Show.

With its cabaret layout, you can enjoy a curry with the comedy show, which is then followed by a disco until 1am.

Acts on the night include Kevin McCarthy, Dan Evans and Rhodri Rhys.

The meal starts at 7.45pm and the acts take to the stage at 9pm. Tickets cost £26 (£14 without the meal). Contact (01223) 511511 or *www.junction.co.uk*

Five of the best

MUSIC fans have a chance to see a host of acts at The Fiver event this Friday at The Junction in Cambridge.

The Cambridge-based line-up includes The Jacqui McQueens, Paris Like This, The Running Mayfairs, The Shills and Blonde Louis. Special guests for the evening will be Little Comets.

The gig starts at 6.30pm and is an alcohol-free event. Tickets cost £5. Contact The Junction (01223) 511511 or go to *www.junction.co.uk*

Tragic tale of life and love in classic opera

AFTER the triumph of last season's concert performance of *Die Fledermaus*, The Cambridge Philharmonic Society is performing what may well be the world's most popular opera, Puccini's *La Boheme*, in concert.

Living in a darkened loft with his bohemian companions, poet Rodolfo comes across the beautiful seamstress Mimi. As they leave to join Rodolfo's friends at the Café Momus for a night of fun and festivities the struggling artists can barely afford, they fall head over heels in love.

Set in 1830s Paris, *La Boheme* follows the twists and turns of the lovers' bittersweet relationship as they come to terms with their own hearts.

But things can, and do, go wrong. Marcello and Musetta argue all the time. Rodolfo and Mimi's intense passion doesn't last even though we know, despite their apparent cluelessness, that they still love each other.

And when in the last act, she turns up in the communal loft, brought in by Musetta who has found the abandoned seamstress sick and unhappy on the streets, it is clear to everyone that she is dying.

Marcello, Musetta and their artist friends run to sell their last belongings to buy medicines, while Mimi and Rodolfo rediscover their love.

Loosely based on Scènes *de la vie de bohème* by Henry Murger, it has been described as a sort of 19th century version of the hippie dream.

The music ranges from the fun and sensual arias of the beautiful Musetta to Rodolfo and Mimi's tender, exploratory songs, full of wonder and passion, which have become some of the most famous in opera.

The Cambridge Philharmonic Society's blazing, lusty production features international soloists Linda Richardson and Bonaventura Bottone, plus a full orchestra and chorus.

La Boheme, West Road Concert Hall, Saturday 7.30pm. Tickets cost from £12. Contact the Cambridge Arts Theatre box office on (01223) 503333 or *www.cam-phil.org.uk*

Opera lover's favourite: La Boheme will be performed by The Cambridge Philharmonic Society, with Linda Richardson, above, among the soloists. CP.

Opera to aid work of charity

INTERNATIONALLY renowned mezzo-soprano, Yvonne Howard, will take to the stage in Cambridge later this month to help raise funds for a local charity.

The concert, in aid of The James Whale Fund for Kidney Cancer, will be held at the stunning Sidney Sussex College Chapel and will also include performances by In Voco Parentis, with conductor John Perry and flautist Peter O'Connor.

Classic FM's John Brunning will host the night.

Cambridge-based Howard was recently hailed by the international press as one of the finest singing actresses this country has produced.

She studied at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and went on to make her debuts with both the Royal Opera Covent Garden and English National Opera in 1991. Since then she has enjoyed a varied and exciting career in concert and opera throughout the world, taking in concert halls and opera houses in Japan, Brazil, USA, the Middle East and Europe as well as the UK.

Tickets for the concert, on Sunday, are available in advance at £5/£3 from *www.etickets.to/buy/?e=3800*, or at Sandra Jane (home interiors store), 46-48 King Street, Cambridge CB1 on Saturdays between 9.30am-5.30pm.

Cinema Listings

CAMBRIDGE VUE
0871 224 0240
Times from Friday, December 18, until Thursday, December 24.
Avatar 3D (12A): Daily 12.10pm, 3.30pm, 7pm; Daily except Thu 10.20pm.
Avatar (12A): Daily 1.10pm, 4.30pm, 9pm; Daily except Mon 8pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 11am, 2.10pm; Fri, Sat & Wed 11.20pm; Fri & Sat 5.30pm.
Avatar (ID Required) (18): Sun 5.30pm; Mon 8pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily 10am, 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 10.10am, 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm.
Where The Wild Things Are (PG): Daily 10.50am, 1.20pm, 6.30pm.
A Christmas Carol 3D (PG): Daily 10am.
A Christmas Carol (PG): Daily 9.50am, noon (subtitled Sun), 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm (subtitled Tue).
Nativity! (U): Daily 11.10am, 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm.
The Twilight Saga - New Moon (12A): Daily 3.40pm, 8.45pm; Fri, Sat & Wed 11.40pm.
Planet 51 (U): Daily 12.40pm, 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.10pm.
The Box (12A): Daily 9.20pm; Fri, Sat & Wed 11.50pm.
Law Abiding Citizen (18): Daily except Thu 11pm.
Paranormal Activity (15): Daily 9.10pm; Daily except Thu 11.10pm.
2012 (12A): Daily 9.15pm.
Up (U): Daily 10.30am.
Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs (U): Daily 10.20am.

CAMBRIDGE CINEWORLD
0871 200 2000
Times from Friday, December 18, until Thursday, December 24.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.30pm, 7.30pm.
Avatar 3D (12A): Daily 11.40am, 3.20pm, 7pm; Daily except Thu 9.30am, 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm, 9pm; Thu 10.40am, 2.20pm, 6pm.
Avatar (12A): Daily 12.20pm, 4pm; Daily except Thu 7.40pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily 11.10am, 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm; Daily except Thu 9.10pm.
Where The Wild Things Are (PG): Daily 11am, 4.25pm, 6.50pm; Daily except Sun 1.45pm.
Planet 51 (U): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 10.50am, 3.25pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 12.15pm, 2.40pm, 5pm.
Paranormal Activity (15): Daily except Thu 9.40pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 7.20pm.
Law Abiding Citizen (18): Daily except Thu 9.20pm.
Nativity! (U): Daily 1.15pm, 5.50pm.
The Twilight Saga - New Moon (12A): Daily except Thu 8.45pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 11.45am, 2.45pm, 5.45pm.
2012 (12A): Daily except Mon & Thu 8.15pm.
A Christmas Carol 3D (PG): Daily 11.50am, 2pm, 4.20pm (subtitled Sun), 6.45pm (subtitled Mon).
A Christmas Carol (PG): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 10.10am; Fri, Sat & Sun 10.50am, 3.25pm.
De Dana Dan (Subtitled) (PG): Sun 1.10pm; Mon 8pm.
G-Force (PG): Sat 10am.
The Santa Clause 3 - The Escape Clause (U): Sat 10am.
Aliens In The Attic (PG): Sat 10am.

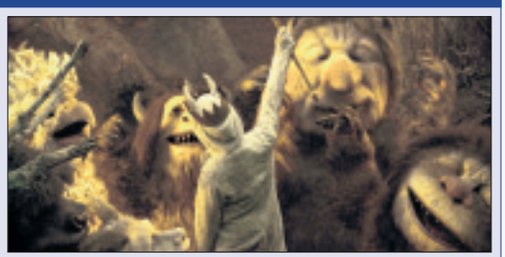
ELY THE MALTINGS
(01353) 616991
Times from Friday, December 18, until Thursday, December 24.
Up (U): Sun & Wed 3pm
An Education (12A): Sun & Wed 7.30pm

BURY ST EDMUNDS CINEWORLD
0871 200 2000
Times from Friday, December 18, until Thursday, December 24.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 11.10am, 12.10pm, 1.10pm, 2.10pm, 3.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm, 6.10pm, 7.10pm, 8.10pm.
Avatar 3D (12A): Daily except Thu 10am, 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.30pm; Thu noon, 3.30pm, 7pm.
Avatar (12A): Daily except Thu 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm, 9.10pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 1040am, 2.10pm, 5.40pm; Thu 11am, 2.30pm, 6pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily except Thu 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm; Daily except Fri & Thu 11.15am; Thu noon, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.30pm.
Where The Wild Things Are (PG): Daily 3.50pm, 6.20pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 1.20pm; Fri & Sun 10.50am.
Planet 51 (U): Daily 1.40pm; Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 11.20am; Fri, Sat & Sun 4pm; Fri & Sun 11.30am.
Paranormal Activity (15): Daily except Thu 8.40pm; Fri, Sat & Sun 6.20pm.
Law Abiding Citizen (18): Fri, Sat & Sun 8.50pm.
Nativity! (U): Daily 10.40am, 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm.
The Twilight Saga - New Moon (12A): Daily except Thu 9pm.
2012 (12A): Daily except Thu 8.20pm.
A Christmas Carol (PG): Daily 11am, 3.40pm, 6pm; Daily except Mon 1.20pm.
G-Force (PG): Sat 10.10am.
The Santa Clause 3 - The Escape Clause (U): Sat 10.05am.
Aliens In The Attic (PG): Sat 10am.
Doubt (15): Mon 1.30pm.

BURY ST EDMUNDS HOLLYWOOD FILM THEATRE
(01284) 754477
Times from Friday, December 18, until Thursday, December 24.
Avatar (12A): Daily 4.20pm; Daily except Thu 7.30pm; Sat & Sun 1pm.
Alvin And The Chipmunks 2 - The Squeakquel (U): Daily except Fri, Sat & Sun 12.20pm, 2.20pm.
St Trinian's 2 - The Legend Of Fritton's Gold (PG): Daily 5.30pm; Daily except Thu 8pm; Daily except Fri 3pm.
Planet 51 (U): Daily except Fri 12.45pm.

The big film

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (PG, 101 mins) Drama/Fantasy. Max Records, Catherine Keener, Pepita Emmerichs, Mark Ruffalo and the voices of James Gandolfini, Lauren Ambrose, Catherine O'Hara, Paul Dano. Director: Spike Jonze.



BASED on Maurice Sendak's beloved children's story, *Where The Wild Things Are* is not a sentimental coming-of-age story viewed through a rose-tinted lens.

Spike Jonze's visually-stunning adaptation unfolds through the eyes of an awkward 9-year-old boy, whose formative years are riddled with loneliness, despair and miscommunication. There is no pretence of happiness by the time we reach the conclusion of this magical odyssey. Life is a struggle and, in the absence of a father figure, the boy will invariably go off the rails many more times.

Jonze and co-writer Dave Eggers take Sendak's original story – a mere 10 sentences and 338 words – and expand it into a 101-minute fantasy that attests to the brutality of childhood and the power of the imagination to temporarily keep harsh reality at bay.

Pint-sized hero Max (Records) doesn't feel like his mother (Keener) or teenage sister Claire (Emmerichs) appreciate him. Frustrations come to a boil when the single parent brings home her new boyfriend (Ruffalo). Max stands on the kitchen table in his favourite white wolf costume and glares at his mother. When she demands he come down, Max makes a scene and growls: "I hate you, I'll eat you up!"

In the ensuing struggle, Max bites his mother and runs off into the night.

By chance, he finds a sailboat, which transports the lad to the island home of a race of hulking, furry creatures called the Wild Things, whose actions and emotions are totally unpredictable. Horned-nose Judith (voiced by O'Hara) threatens to eat Max, but he wins over the group's leader Carol (Gandolfini) by pretending to be an exiled king. The furry friends anoint him leader, and Max decrees they build a fort. The other creatures, including KW (Ambrose) and goat-like Alexander (Dano), do the lad's bidding but Max quickly learns that harmony isn't always possible.

Where The Wild Things Are is heart-breaking, anchored by a mesmerising lead performance from Records, whose face captures every flicker of despair and joy during Max's amazing adventure.

The creatures are brilliantly realised using a combination of giant costumes and digital effects, while the vocal performances capture the personalities of these untameable beasts, who share many of Max's woes. The Wild Things teach Max the value of friendship and the consequences of bending the truth. By the end of the film, as we choke back tears, the rotund leader realises how he wrong he was.

SPECIAL READER OFFER

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Fragrant: above, Tree Lily® Nymph, below, Tree Lily® Robina

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How to get the best out of your Christmas tree

by Hannah Stephenson

If you buy a real Christmas tree, how can you make sure it stays looking its best over the festive season?

Some 30 per cent of people in the UK do buy the real thing each year, yet many are often left with more needles on the floor than on the tree within a week of putting it up, especially if they haven't chosen a non-drop variety such as the ever-popular Nordmann fir.

But if you give any tree the care it needs, it shouldn't drop too much, says Roger Hay, secretary of the British Christmas Tree Growers' Association.

"If you look after trees properly, most of them should look good throughout the festive season," he says.

"The spruces will drop before the fir trees or the pine trees, but if you look after them they should be good for six weeks."

Cut trees remain the most popular, and it is essential that they should be fresh when purchased. The needles should not be dull and dried up, the branches not brittle. If you gently shake the tree, the outer needles should not fall off.

When you've bought your tree, keep it outside in a cool, shaded place, preferably standing in water, until it is required indoors.

Before bringing it inside, cut about half an inch off the base of the trunk to open up the pores of the tree and then place it securely in a water-holding stand or wedge it in a bucket with pebbles, small stones or screwed-up newspaper and place it away from direct heat. Anyone who places the tree next to a radiator is asking for trouble.

Keep the container topped up with water every day, as trees can get through a pint a day.

About 8.5 million trees are sold in this country every Christmas, of which half are Nordmann firs. Hay prefers the Fraser fir (Abies fraseri) which is popular in the eastern United States – it is narrower than other trees and therefore more suitable for smaller rooms.

It's worth shopping around on the internet, as trees are likely to be a couple of pounds more expensive than they were last year, he adds.

"Look for growers who are situated in an isolated place away from urban centres. They are less likely to get a big retail market and you may get a better deal and a better tree from them," says Hay.

Remember that trees sold retail in urban areas may have come from out of town and may have been exposed to drying winds in transit. They could have been cut weeks earlier. Ask the retailer whether his trees are delivered either once at the beginning of the season or at different times during the period.

Some people may opt for a tree that will last for years.

"If you are looking for a tree you can plant in the garden afterwards, go for a container-grown tree. You can plant it out after Christmas and may be able to bring it in again next year," Hay says.

You should put it in a sheltered spot initially and slowly acclimatise it to the open before planting in its final home, making sure the root collar is at ground level and to water it in well.

Visit *www.bctga.co.uk* for more information.

BEST OF THE BUNCH
Poinsettia
No Christmas would be complete without at least one of these vibrant plants (proper name Euphorbia pulcherrima).

Traditionally they have red flowerhead leaves, although you can also buy them in pink and greenish white, which are becoming popular alternatives.

Poinsettias thrive in average temperatures of 18-24C and should not be placed in cold draughts. They enjoy bright, filtered light throughout their stages of growth, and maximum light during winter.

They should be watered thoroughly, but don't overdo it, and wait until the compost is fairly dry before watering again. If leaves begin to wilt, it will be either because the plant has been over or under-watered.

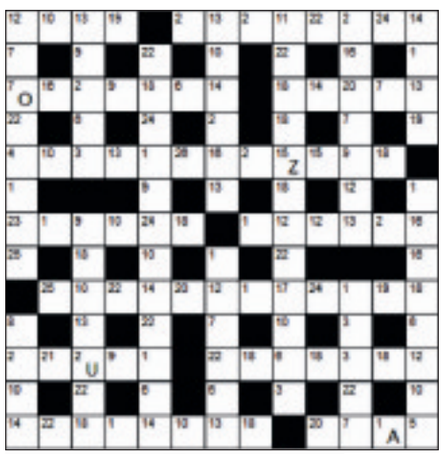
FOUR Ws

1. WHO...was British Prime Minister 1841-46?
WHAT...have Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes named their daughter?
WHERE...in Europe is the city of Zaporizhzhya?
WHEN...did the BBC TV show Grandstand first air?

2. WHO...plays the title role in Miss Potter, the film about Beatrix Potter?
WHAT...French general is mentioned in the French national anthem, La Marseillaise?
WHERE...in Europe has Traian Basescu been President since 2004?
WHEN...did Queen Victoria die?

3. WHO...is the subject of the Philip Glass music-drama *The Photographer*?
WHAT...are the two main languages of Finland?
WHERE...in Africa is the Rufiji River?
WHEN...did Switzerland became a full member of the United Nations?

Answers: 1. Robert Peel; Suri; Ukraine; 1958. **2.** Answers: Renee Zellweger; Bouille; Romania; 1901. **3.** Eadweard Muybridge; Finnish and Swedish; Tanzania; 2002.



Codeword 3: Can you crack the code and solve the word puzzle? Each number relates to a letter and every letter of the alphabet is used at least once.

■ Last week's solution.

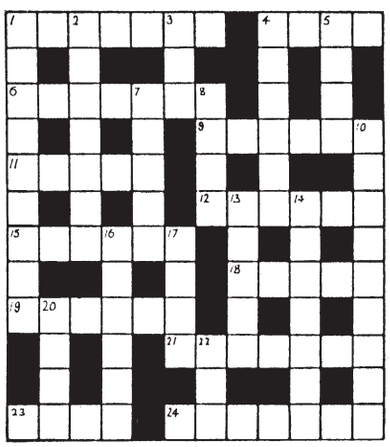
			2			1	4	7
		3		6	7	8		9
4		5		8			6	
	1		8	9				
9	5						3	6
				5	6		1	
	8			4		3		2
6		2	1	7		5		
7	9	4			3			

Sudoku 78:
Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once.

1	6	5	8	3	9	7	4	2
9	7	8	4	6	2	1	3	5
4	2	3	5	1	7	6	8	9
7	5	4	3	9	1	8	2	6
3	8	6	2	7	4	9	5	1
2	1	9	6	5	8	4	7	3
8	9	1	7	2	3	5	6	4
6	3	7	1	4	5	2	9	8
5	4	2	9	8	6	3	1	7

■ Last week's solution.

Crossword 2144



Across

1. The decline of French perfume. (7)
4. Does strongbox keep one out of danger? (4)
6. Swear how old? That's mean! (7)
9. Pudding comes following a bit of steak. (6)
11. Bill reaches high spot as a player. (5)
12. Fired by companion, I find fruit. (6)
15. Against a section of the poem? (6)
18. Leaves in pieces. (5)
19. Thanks to strike, I reach S. Pacific island. (6)
21. Detective sounded capital in the Far East. (7)
23. A crew have the last word. (4)
24. Pattern plate? It's full of holes! (7)

Down

1. Sketch a bit, then move slightly away. (4,5)
2. In some respect resembles a ghost. (7)
3. Keep finding fault with the horse. (3)
4. Month before space traveller meets musical group. (6)
5. Feel afraid of strange fare? (4)
7. A religious leader and artists found tapestry. (5)
8. Peer at jewel missing its top. (4)
10. Europeans reel from the sight of cake. (5,4)
13. Urge to lie badly about member. (5)
14. Mac mixes in rice to make sort of pottery. (7)
16. Gunners eat one at home with fruit. (6)
17. Heather loses a boy. (4)
20. A cat can be a tiny thing. (4)
22. Love at sight of single cereal. (3)

Solution to 2143 – Across: 1. Cast; 7. Banish; 8. Onus; 10. End; 11. Taunted; 12. Dye; 13. Maple; 17. Henry; 19. Emu; 21. Spectre; 23. Koi; 23. Left; 25. Nodded; 26. Peel. **Down:** 1. Crone; 2. Sou; 3. Mature; 4. Mistake; 5. Cheddar; 6. Gadget; 9. Stop; 14. Amusing; 15. Legends; 16. Beckon; 17. Hatter; 18. Noel; 20. Motel; 24. Exe.

SATURDAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
10.00 Saturday Kitchen.
11.30 Nigella's Christmas Kitchen.
12.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
12.15 Football Focus.
1.00 Olympia International Horse Show.
1.45 Live Swimming. Day two of the Duel in the Pool.
4.30 Final Score.
5.25 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
5.45 Merlin.
6.35 Strictly Come Dancing. The final of the pro-celebrity contest.
7.40 Casualty. Ruth confronts her brother following the discovery he has been stealing from her to fund his drug addiction. May's frustrations lead her to play a career-threatening trick on Lenny.
8.30 The National Lottery Draws.
8.40 Strictly Come Dancing. As the competition draws to a close, the couples are given free rein to demonstrate their skills in a spectacular show dance and impress the voting public.
9.40 Live at the Apollo. Rhod Gilbert hosts the stand-up comedy show.
10.10 BBC News; Weather.
10.30 Match of the Day. Highlights of today's Premier League fixtures.
11.40 The Football League Show.
12.55 Friday Night with Jonathan Ross.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too!
6.20 Big Cook Little Cook.
6.40 Brum.
6.55 Pingu.
7.00 CBBC: Zombie Hotel.
7.25 Sportsround.
7.40 Bear Behaving Badly.
8.05 The Basil Brush Show.
8.30 TMi.
10.00 Doctor Who: The Infinite Quest.
10.45 Pinky and Perky: It's Christmaaaas!
11.00 The Story of Tracy Beaker.
11.30 The Slammer.
12.00 BBC Switch: The Cut.
12.25 BBC Switch: The Cut.
12.50 BBC Switch: The 5:19 Show.
1.20 Greek.
2.10 Coast.
2.30 Grow Your Own Drugs for Christmas.
3.30 The Hairy Bakers' Christmas Special.
4.30 FILM: Dances with Wolves (1990). Oscar-winning Western, starring Kevin Costner.
7.20 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring's brother visits.
8.00 A History of Scotland. How the country has changed since World War One.
9.00 FILM: Blade Runner: The Final Cut (1982). Futuristic sci-fi thriller, starring Harrison Ford.
10.55 Have I Got News for You Xmas 2008.
11.25 Defying Gravity.
12.50 BBC Learning Zone.
1.50 FILM: Macbeth (1948).

ITV

6.00 GMTV.
9.25 CITV: Horrid Henry.
9.55 Atomic Betty.
10.10 Art Attack.
10.35 FILM: Tooth (2004). Children's fantasy adventure.
12.20 News and Weather.
12.24 Anglia Weather.
12.25 Best Ever Family Films.
1.25 FILM: Jack Frost (1998). Family fantasy drama, starring Michael Keaton.
3.15 FILM: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004). Live-action comedy adventure sequel, with Sarah Michelle Gellar.
5.00 News and Weather.
5.30 Kids Do the Funniest Things.
6.30 Take That: The Circus Live. The group's Wembley Stadium performances in July.
8.00 Stars on the Street. Documentary taking a look at the famous faces who have appeared in Coronation Street.
9.00 FILM: Love Actually (2003). Ten interlinked stories of people searching for and finding love. Richard Curtis's romantic comedy.
11.30 ITV News and Weather.
11.45 FILM: Ready When You Are, Mr McGill (2003) A TV director struggles with a disastrous day's filming. Satirical comedy.
1.35 FILM: Igby Goes Down (2003). Black comedy.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Planet Cook.
6.30 Yo Gabba Gabba.
7.00 World Sport.
7.30 Freesports on 4.
8.00 The Morning Line.
8.55 T4: Friends.
9.25 T4: Pixie Lott Takes Off: T4 Special.
9.55 T4: 4Music Favourites: Alicia Keys.
10.25 T4: Friends.
11.00 T4: The Hollyoaks Music Show.
11.30 T4: Sherlock Holmes: T4 Premiere Special.
12.00 T4: 90210.
1.00 T4: Scrubs.
1.30 Channel 4 Racing.
3.30 My First Year.
4.00 My First Year.
4.30 My First Year.
5.00 Come Dine with Me. Five instalments of the culinary competition.
7.30 Channel 4 News.
8.00 Dover Castle: A Time Team Special. Tony Robinson examines the castle's recent extraordinary restoration.
9.00 Wife Swap: The Last Episode. Bentley-driving lady-of-leisure Torre, swaps with mum of seven Sam Dale who lives on a council estate.
10.05 Wife Swap: The Celebrity Episode.
11.10 Wife Swap: The First Episode.
12.15 4Music: Live from Abbey Road.
1.20 FILM: The Cheaters (1945). Christmas comedy, starring Joseph Schildkraut.

five

6.00 Sunrise.
7.00 Angels of Jarm.
7.05 Milkshake! Bop Box.
7.10 Fireman Sam.
7.25 Rupert Bear.
7.35 Hana's Helpline.
7.45 Milkshake! Music Box.
7.50 Make Way for Noddy.
8.05 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.
8.10 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.
8.25 The Mr Men Show.
8.40 Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs.
9.00 Olivia.
9.15 Little Princess.
9.30 Gerald McBoing Boing.
10.00 NFL UK.
11.00 Gadget Show: Gadget of the Decade.
12.00 Britain's Best Brain.
1.00 Animal Rescue Squad.
1.30 FILM: The Gnome-Mobile (1967). Children's fantasy, starring Walter Brennan.
3.10 Five News.
3.15 FILM: Meet the Santas (2005). Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg.
5.10 Knight Rider.
6.45 Five News.
6.50 NCIS.
7.40 CSI: Grissom's Greatest. Four episodes of the forensic drama series.
11.40 Women Who Kill. Teenage killer Jennifer Twist.
12.10 SuperCasino.

Cranford
BBC1, Sunday, 9pm

Take That: The Circus Live
ITV, Saturday, 6.30pm

Come Dine With Me
Channel Four, Saturday, 5pm

Dirty Dancing
five, Sunday, 9pm

SUNDAY

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
7.45 Match of the Day.
9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00 Fern Britton Meets Sheila Hancock.
11.00 Country Tracks.
12.00 BBC News.
12.05 Car Booty.
12.50 Match of the Day Live. Newcastle United v Middlesbrough.
3.05 EastEnders.
5.00 The First Christmas: A Songs of Praise Special.
5.40 Life. Hamadryas baboons, Japanese macaques and capuchins are among the creatures explored as the focus turns to apes and monkeys.
6.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
7.00 Countryfile at Christmas. Matt Baker and Julia Bradbury head to Adam Henson's farm in the Cotswolds for a festive dinner.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the experts head to Abbotsford.
9.00 Cranford.
10.30 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
10.55 FILM: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls (1995) The eccentric pet detective is coaxed out of self-imposed exile to travel to Africa and offer his expertise in the search for a sacred white bat. Comedy sequel.
12.25 Sign Zone: Grow Your Own Drugs for Christmas.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies: Me Too!
6.20 Big Cook Little Cook.
6.40 Brum.
6.55 Pingu.
7.00 CBBC: Uncle Max.
7.10 OOglies.
7.30 Arthur's Perfect Christmas.
8.25 Shaun the Sheep.
8.30 Bear Behaving Badly.
9.00 The Sorcerer's Apprentice.
10.00 Something for the Weekend.
11.30 FILM: Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993). Animated fantasy, with the voice of Chris Sarandon.
12.40 FILM: One Magic Christmas (1985). Family drama, starring Mary Steenburgen.
2.05 Ski Sunday.
2.50 Live Olympia International Horse Show. The penultimate day at the Olympia Grand Hall.
4.50 FILM: The Eagle Has Landed (1976). British World War Two spy adventure, with Michael Caine and Donald Sutherland.
7.00 James May's Toy Stories. James builds a full-size house out of Lego.
8.00 Top Gear. The hosts bid to prove that cars can be art.
9.00 Oz and Hugh Drink to Christmas. Oz Clarke and Hugh Dennis sample festive drinks.
10.00 Have I Got News for You. With guest host Jeremy Clarkson.
10.30 Match of the Day 2.
11.30 Dara O Briain Talks Funny: Live in London.
12.30 Room 101.

ITV

6.00 GMTV.
9.25 CITV: Paz.
9.35 Supernormal.
9.50 Horrid Henry.
10.05 Tricky Quickies.
10.10 Coronation Street.
12.25 News and Weather.
12.30 FILM: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989). Comedy, starring Chevy Chase.
2.20 Take That: The Circus Live. The group's Wembley Stadium performances in July.
3.50 FILM: Johnny English (2003). Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson and Ben Miller.
5.30 News and Weather.
6.00 You've Been Framed and Famous! Harry Hill showcases some of the best celebrity lookalike clips sent in by viewers.
7.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Christmas Special. Radio 2 stars Chris Evans and Terry Wogan are first up in this festive special raising money for charity. They are followed by Coleen and Maureen Nolan. Chris Tarrant hosts.
8.00 Ad of the Decade. Ben Shephard narrates a countdown of the 20 greatest TV commercials of the past 10 years, featuring interviews with the stars of the ads and a host of celebrities.
9.00 The Fattest Man in Britain.
11.00 ITV News and Weather.
11.15 FILM: Analyze This (1999). Comedy, with Robert De Niro.
1.05 Quincy ME.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Planet Cook.
6.40 Yo Gabba Gabba.
7.05 Ocean Race.
8.00 Beach Volleyball.
8.55 T4: Friends. Joey gets competitive.
9.25 T4: Friends.
9.55 T4: Hollyoaks.
12.25 T4: 90210.
1.20 T4: Friends.
1.50 T4: Ugly Betty.
2.50 T4: Friends.
3.20 T4: The Simpsons. Marge regales the kids with how she and Homer met and fell in love.
3.50 T4: The Simpsons.
4.25 Deal or No Deal.
5.15 FILM: Miracle on 34th Street (1994). Christmas family drama remake, with Richard Attenborough.
7.25 Channel 4 News.
7.55 3 Minute Wonder: 12 Days of Christmas. A short festive-themed film.
8.00 FILM: The Family Man (2000). A businessman experiences the life he would have lived if he had not abandoned his girlfriend. Drama, with Nicolas Cage.
10.20 Father Ted. Fathers Dougal and Ted have their worst Christmas ever by getting lost in a store's lingerie department, leaving them in a highly embarrassing predicament.
11.30 Sean Lock: Stand Up. A performance from London's Hammersmith Apollo.
12.35 Cecil B DeMille: American Epic.

five

6.00 Sunrise.
7.00 Milkshake!
10.00 Shake!: Snobs.
10.35 Wizards of Waverly Place.
11.10 Hannah Montana.
11.45 Zoo Days.
11.50 Crusoe.
1.40 FILM: Scrooge (1951). Charles Dickens' fantasy, starring Alastair Sim.
3.25 Five News.
3.30 FILM: Matilda (1996). Children's fantasy comedy, starring Mara Wilson.
5.30 Heads or Tails.
6.30 The Gadget Show: Winter Special.
6.55 FILM: Christmas with the Kranks (2004). A couple decide to steer clear of the usual festive celebrations in favour of a holiday in the sun, prompting their disappointed friends to pull out all the stops to get them to change their minds. Comedy, starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Tim Allen and Dan Aykroyd.
9.00 FILM: Dirty Dancing (1987). Romance blossoms as a dance instructor teaches a naive teenager about life and love. Drama, starring Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey.
11.05 FILM: An American Haunting (2005). Premiere. An evil spirit haunting a 19th-century family is linked to a witch's curse. Fact-based horror, starring Donald Sutherland and Sissy Spacek.
12.50 NFL Live.

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Make way for Cubism

Cube will kickstart year

SMALL cars were largely behind November's huge UK-wide showroom sales boost, and more new models will see the surge continue into the new year.

With official new-car registrations up 57.8 per cent on the November 2008 figure, and manufacturers such as Ford, Vauxhall and Peugeot hailing the success of their superminis, January could kick off a boom year for the industry.

Keeping the sales charts in good shape will be the Cube, a much-anticipated new model from Nissan which should quickly achieve cult status when it goes on sale here in January.

Named as a design icon in its own right by the London Design Museum, which labels the Cube as "one of the 50 cars that changed the world", the quirky runabout has been a million-seller in Japan.

That will change when Nissan puts just 2,000 up for grabs next year, with the first 100 examples labelled LDN special editions, priced at £14,600 and all finished in a unique chocolate colour with matching suede interior trim.

The other 1,900 examples will come in two trim levels, priced from £14,000, and get Nissan's 1.6-litre, 108bhp petrol engine that returns 42.8mpg overall.

A 1.5-litre diesel unit will be offered from next May.

But it's the look, and what the Cube is all about, that should rocket it to the level of success not seen since the first BMW Minis were put on sale.

The Nissan Cube: Five-seater.

Nissan says the five-seater places function ahead of form with a lounge-style cabin and curve-themed interior design.

A large triple-layered glass roof comes as standard, together with rear privacy glass, Bluetooth connectivity and cruise control.

Nissan's UK managing director Paul Willcox can't wait for the Cube to arrive.

"Here we have a car that will not only meet the functional requirements of a huge range of new car buyers, but also capture their imagination," he says.

Inside the Cube: Wavy lines are designed to suggest the calm of a flowing river.

Scrappage reduces CO2 output

THE average CO2 emissions of a car bought through the scrappage scheme was 133g/km, 10 per cent below the overall new car market average and 27 per cent below a scrapped car's emissions.

Commenting on the data, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) chief executive Paul Everitt said: "Scrappage continues to have a positive impact on vehicle registrations, contributing to the 57.6 per cent increase in November's registrations. It has helped generate consumer confidence, and SMMT urges Government to sustain the recovery and support the long-term future of the motor industry."

The Scrappage Scheme accounted for 21.6 per cent of all new car sales.

C30 1.6D DRIVe wins eco-award

THE new Volvo C30 1.6D DRIVe with Start/Stop has been awarded TheGreenCar Website.co.uk's Green Car of the Year.

The Volvo C30 DRIVe stormed ahead in the online poll beating rivals like the Toyota Prius and BMW 316d.

Emitting only 99g/km of CO2, the new Volvo C30 1.6D DRIVe with Start/Stop not only qualifies for free annual Vehicle Excise Duty, but offers up to 74.3 mpg on a combined cycle resulting in about 850 miles on one tank of fuel. These eco credentials make it one of the most fuel efficient vehicles in its class without compromising on style and comfort.

On top of receiving an overwhelming majority of votes from visitors to the site, the Volvo C30 DRIVe was also unanimously voted green car of the year by the motoring journalists behind TheGreenCar Website.co.uk.

TheGreenCarWebsite.co.uk's editor, Faye Sunderland, said: "The C30 1.6D DRIVe with Start/Stop technology is genuinely a fantastic addition to the 'green scene' this year. In such a short space of time, Volvo successfully slashed its emissions and as a relative newcomer in the green car market, it is impressive to see the Swedish carmaker make such strong progress in a short time. A deserved winner, Volvo can afford to be very proud of the C30 DRIVe as its flagship green model."

Eco-ace: The Volvo C30 1.6D DRIVe with Stop/Start.

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2006 (06)	**HONDA JAZZ,** 5dr, SE, 1339cc, petrol, aircon, CD player, one owner, full history	£6,995
2005 (05)	**VAUXHALL ASTRA Estate 1.3 CDTi Life,** diesel, only 41,000 miles, one owner, full history, aircon, electric windows, remote CDL	£5,995
2005 (05)	**RENAULT SCENIC Dynamique DCi 80 1461cc Diesel**	£5,495
1997 (R)	**ROVER MINI,** only 15,000 miles from new, this vehicle is a serious collectors piece, just arrived, finished in green	£4,995
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£800 ono
07779 589253

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£2,850 ono
01223 833805
07860 110083

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2003 (03) PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX, air con, 79k, FSH..... **£2,495**
2002 (52) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB, 5 dr, air con, PAS, e/w, remote locking/alarm, only 39,000 miles, immaculate **£2,495**
2001 (X) RENAULT CLIO 1.2 GRANDE, PAS, s/r, remote locking/alarm, e/w, stereo, 65k, silver **£1,695**
2002 (52) ROVER 25 L 1.4, PAS, 68k, s/r, FSH **£1,695**
01 (Y) PEUGEOT 106 ZEST 2, PAS, s/r, c/l, CD/radio, alloys..**£1,295**
00 (X) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 CLUB, PAS, FSH, met blue..... **£795**
99 (V) MONDEO 1.8 LX est, full mot, vgc..... **£495**
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07787 165624

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Ford Escort Diesel Van
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Ford Ka 1.3
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£2,150 ono
01223 833819

Ford Ka 1.3 Style
2005, metallic panther black, low mileage, long tax & MoT, lady owner, service history, colour coded bodywork, excellent condition
£2,895 ono
01638 742092
07767 386263

Ford

Ford Mondeo Titanium X 2.2
TDCI, 2005, Metallic Panther Black, 41,000 miles, 6 CD, Climate, Cruise Control, E/W, MOT, FSH, Pristine condition
£8,950 ono
01223 512605
07725 004748

Jaguar

Jaguar XKR 4.0 Supercharged
2 dr Coupe, 2001, Blue, 45,700 miles, FSH, recent service, all electrics, CD, Alarm, Alloys, Immob, Leather, a/b, PAS, MoT, Tax
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Land Rover Discovery 300 TDi
Diesel, 1997, Black, 170,000 miles, MOT & Tax March '10, P reg'd, Towbar, Very reliable
£1,600
07958 763691

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Mazda

Mazda 626 Atlantis 1800cc
2000 X reg'd, 64,000 miles, 10 months MOT, Tax, service history, very good condition
£1,575 ono
01223 564808

Mercedes

Mercedes C230 Komp Elegance
1998, 149k, ABS, A\C, E/W, sunroof, 12 months full MoT, recent full service, tax, FSH (M Benz) very good condition
£2,250 ono
01763 287209

Mercedes Estate
2.6L, 7 seats, semi-auto, 53 reg'd, 68k, ABS, A\C, Alarm, Alloys, MoT 10 mths, E/M, Tax, Royal blue, cream cloth interior, FSH, just serviced, retractable dog guard, high spec, truly excellent condition
£11,250 ovno
07971 276066

Mini

Mini Cooper S
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07888 745692
01799 524271

Nissan

NISSAN MICRA 1.3i GX
1996 (P), 93k miles, FSH, MoT Dec 2010, 6 mths tax, s/r, CD, excellent condition
£850
01223 860170
07881 633006. T

Other Makes

Perodua Kelisa EXi
5 door super mini, Petrol, 2005, 26,000 miles, P/S, MOT, FSH, airbags, low running and ownership costs. Reluctant sale.
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01353 740879

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Peugeot

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07979 235910
07970 003194

PEUGEOT 106 XL ZEST 3 1.1
1999 (T), 3 door, PAS, radio/ CD, airbag, e/w, silver, 64,000 miles, MoT Oct 2010 www.smallcarsonly.co.uk
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01440 730104

Range Rover

Range Rover 200 TDi
1993 reg'd, MoT Aug, tax July, 3" lift kit, sump guard, winch
£1,295 ono
01440 783268
07766 481462

Range Rover

Range Rover Vogue
2000 (X), 106k, ABS, A\C, Alarm, Alloys, CD, Climate, Cruise, E/W, H/Seats, Immob, a/bags, PAS, tax & MoT Aug, e/s/r, E/M, Oxford blue
£4,800 ono
01954 719604

Renault

Renault Clio Grande 1149cc
Nov 2000, X reg'd, Blue, 69,000 miles, 12 months MOT, Tax, 5 door, full service history, one owner from new, excellent condition
£1,700 ovno
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Dynam DCi, Diesel, 62k, long MoT, 2002, nice condition, gearbox problems hence
£1,250
01223 478164
07792 064183 .T

Renault Twingo Dynamique
Reg 2008, Met Blue, 10,700 miles, Tax March '10, 1.2 16V Petrol Engine, Excellent condition, 1 lady owner
£6,300 ono
01440 714949

Rover-MG

Rover 416 I
1998 R reg'd, 130,000 miles, 1 owner, service records,MoT Sept '10, tax Feb '10, vgc
£380 ono
01763 261169

Suzuki

SUZUKI Jimny 4WD 1.3 Mode, 2004 (54), read/ silver, only 45,000 miles, FSH, PAS, c/l, e/w, airbags, radio/ CD, alloys, leather seats, immobiliser, long MoT, warranty, excellent condition, £3,995. Tel: 01799 584327 / 07779 557267, www.rowleyscars.co.uk

Mercedes

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01767 677459
07973 117993

Toyota

Toyota Corolla Auto
1600cc, 4 dr, 11 mths MoT, 5 mths tax, just serviced, vgc
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01763 248640 o.
07515 102134 T.

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Vauxhall

VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi, 2003 (53), aqua metallic, 37,000 miles, FSH, PAS, c/l, e/w, airbags, radio/ CD, alloys, immobiliser, colour coded bumpers and mirrors, long MoT, warranty, excellent condition, £3,495. Tel: 01799 584327 / 07779 557267, www.rowleyscars.co.uk

Vauxhall Corsa 1.2
1994, M reg'd, Blue, 65,000 miles, MOT to 20th Dec, Tax end Dec, excellent little run around, recent part exhaust fitted and recent tyre
£350
01954 210720

Vauxhall Astra Twintop 1.8
Sport, 2006, Silver, 34,000 miles, Alloys, 12 months MOT & Tax, 4 recent tyres, Folding steel roof, Manuel, 1 lady owner, FSH, vgc
£9,200 ono
01480 431161

Vauxhall Cavalier GLS 2L
1995, Maroon, 99,000 miles, ABS, Alloys, Airbag, E/W, MOT May '10, S/Roof, PAS, Part service history
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07515 102134 T.

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£650
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VW Golf 1.4S, 5 door, 2001 (51), met silver, only 54,000 miles, FSH, PAS, c/l, e/w, airbags, radio/ cassette, immobiliser, colour coded bumpers and mirrors, full MoT, warranty, excellent condition, £3,650. Tel: 01799 584327/ 07779 557267, www.rowleyscars.co.uk

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£995 ono
07801 752897

VW POLO 1.4L
1999 (V), 5 door, PAS, radio/ cass, airbag, s/r, 69,000 miles, MoT Dec 2010, www.smallcarsonly.co.uk
£1,695
01440 730104

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HOUSE clearance, downsizing, moving, etc houses, outbuildings professionally cleared. Tel: 01223 208434.

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4 GARDENS

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7 PETS & LIVESTOCK

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8 LOCAL SERVICES

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Monday ~ Friday
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Newmarket area

12 PROPERTY

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HAVERHILL rooms to let in furnished house from £65 per week, inc council tax._ 07958 905906.

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Property for Sale

SOHAM 2 bedroom modern house, no chain, £115,000 freehold Tel: 01353 727000

13 PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notices

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY

CAMBRIDGE COUNTY COURT

No. 116 of 2004 **RE: KELLY ANN BIGINTON** I intend to pay within four months from 19 January 2010 (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 0.8 p/£. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so by 19 January 2010 otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.insolvency.gov.uk, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at 2nd Floor, Sunley House, Bedford Park, CROYDON, CR9 1TX telephone 02086 67+8012 to supply a form.

P Cropper, Official Receiver and Trustee, NDU Croydon, 2nd Floor, Sunley House, Bedford Park, Croydon, CR9 1TX

Public Notices

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION NOT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT
(Regulation 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999 as amended by SI 2005/1399 and SI 2006/618

South Level Patch Piling Improvement Works

The Environment Agency gives notice that it proposes to carry out improvement works to the flood defences on the River Great Ouse between Ely and Denver at the following locations:

Right Bank - Modney Hall (NGR: TL 60169 96288) to Ship Inn (NGR: TL 60739 91838)

Left Bank - Immediate vicinity of Ship Inn (NGR: TL 60713 91913)

Right Bank - Immediate vicinity of Branch Bridge (NGR: TL 57324 84535)

Right Bank - Clayway Farm (NGR: TL 57017 83033) to Cuckoo Bridge (NGR: TL 56011 80396)

The proposed improvement works will commence in January 2010 and finish mid March 2010 and will involve the following:

• Replacing/repairing damaged sections of asbestos sheet piling with more durable steel piles in order to prevent further erosion to the toe of the flood embankments.

• Restoring eroded sections of the embankments behind the new steel piles with a compacted earth infill.

The Environment Agency considers that the improvement works are not likely to have significant effects on the environment and does not intend to prepare an environmental statement in respect of them. Further information in the form of a Low Risk Project Summary File Note is available from the address below.

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to the likely environmental effects of the proposed improvement works should do so, in writing, to the address specified below, within 28 days of the date of publication of this notice.

John Faulkner (Project Manager)
Environment Agency
Bromholme Lane
Brampton
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE28 4NE

Cambridge News NEWSPOINT

You can now book family announcements and private classified advertisements at our NEWSPOINT at the Grafton Centre Information Kiosk in Cambridge.

14 PERSONAL SERVICES

Personal Services

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ANGEL and friends escorts. Tel: 07040 901535.

ANNA pretty young escort, Ely area, Tel: 07951 037092

AONG Yang professional massage by qualified lady in Newmarket. Tel: 07776 386787.

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CAMBRIDGE Oriental, classy massage, 10am - 11pm. Tel: 07871 840274

CAMBRIDGE Tokyo, sweetie, VIP service, 7 days. Tel: 07897 605784.

CLASSY and discreet, Toni, available most days. Tel: 07717 668725.

ELY area, escort service, bubbly fun female. Tel: 07804 503703.

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FOXY Kittens escorts. Tel: 07040 901443

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NEWMARKET babe, 25, fun and bubbly, 10am-10pm, 7 days. Tel: 07779 775448.

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11 SITUATIONS VACANT

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Newmarket Weekly News
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To assist and enable her to live life to the full.

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RECEPTIONIST for Cambridge Dental Centre. 38.75 hours per week. Uniform provided. Tel: 01223 353270.

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Thorough knowledge of Microsoft Office essential.
Will assist Director in admin management of several practices, diary management, preparation of lectures, marketing, and setting up new admin systems.

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Will offer training to the right candidate.

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A suitably experienced Accountant to take responsibility for the finance department based in modern offices on the outskirts of Chatteris.

The successful candidate will be hands on as the responsibilities will be to cover all aspects of the accounting function including ledgers, cashflow, VAT, payroll and the completion of monthly accounts.

The successful applicant will also be involved in Human Resources matters.

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

The role will be to support the Company Accountant and the successful applicant will therefore be an experienced accounts person covering purchase and sales ledgers and payroll and maintaining Human Resources records.

The remuneration on offer will reflect the importance of the positions.

Closing Date: 31st December 2009.

Applicants should send a C.V. and covering letter to Barry Bowden at Frans House, Fenton Way, Chatteris PE16 6UP or e mail barry.bowden@ermsuk.com

Further information about the company can be found on our Website www.ermsuk.com

Cambridge Newspapers

Media Sales Advisor
Maternity cover, fixed term contract initially for 6 months
Full-time, Milton
Starting salary £13,300 + generous bonus scheme

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This position offers a generous bonus scheme, on top of a competitive salary and ongoing training and development opportunities.

In the first instance please forward a CV and covering letter to Louise Shephard: louise.shephard@cambridge-news.co.uk or telephone 01223 434311 and we will forward a job description and an application form.

Closing date: Monday 21st December

It is the company policy to welcome applications from any individual regardless of ethnic origin, gender, disability, religious belief, sexual orientation or age. All applications will be considered on merit.

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Cambridge News jobFAIR 2010

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WEDNESDAY 20th JANUARY 2010

10am - 5.30pm

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Britian's brightest energy company

Marshall Aerospace — Leaders in Aerospace Engineering

nextstep — Face - to - face careers advice with Nextstep

jobFAIR 2010 — Stand available

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lcg bioscience — We need your help, be a volunteer

Circle Anglia — Circle Anglia is one of the UK's leading providers of affordable housing

Cambridgeshire County Council — Children and Young Peoples Service Community Support Service for Disabled Children

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jobFAIR 2010 — Stand available

Thera East Anglia — We support people with a learning disability in their own home, local community & for short breaks

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premier Training — Premier provides high quality, nationally accredited qualifications

Real VNC — Real VNC provides remote control software

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connexions — Information and advice for young people

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Nurse Plus — Achieving more together

Cambridge Newspapers — The voice of Mid Anglia

Cambridge Building Society — The Building Society that belongs to you

jobFAIR 2010 — Stand available

iln east — iln East offers the highest quality support to people with a disability

Appletrees Homecare — Caring with dignity and respect

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Opportunity Links — We help you connect with people

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Cambridge News

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» Rugby Union

It's the invincibles

Under-10s keep unbeaten tag

Wendens Ambo v Newmarket
Under-10
NEWMARKET rounded off the year with another superb display of attacking rugby which preserved their unbeaten record in club fixtures.

Despite a slow start which led to them falling behind, they won the opening game 20-5. Quick-thinking Tom Addison scored the equaliser and then worked well with Kieran Sutton to feed Doron Baldwin, who gave the visitors the half-time lead. After that Josh Dadds and Will Christie wrapped up the win.

Newmarket established early territorial advantage to set up a 25-5 triumph in the second game. Sam McNaughton set them on their way with two tries with Sutton snuffing out a Wendens comeback with two tries. Addison completed the scoring.

Wendens Ambo v Newmarket
Under-seven
NEWMARKET only appeared to hit form in the final game of their three-match series, despite finishing unbeaten.

They started with an 11-8 success, with tries from Jennifer Girgis, Jonathan Rees, Samuel Skingley, Elijah Hall, Owen Bentley – thanks to good tagging by Henry Marriott – Alex Cowdrey, and Joseph McCaffrey.

It was a bit tighter in the next match, Newmarket edging in 11-9 thanks to four tries from McCaffrey and further touch downs from Edward Newton, Gabriel Jones on his debut, Bentley, Hall and Cowdrey.

However, Newmarket's work-rate, communication, passing and running into space picked up in the final match – observers felt the standard was almost that of a more senior team – and they ran in 12-9 winners.

Skingley and Hall led the way with two apiece with Jones and McCaffrey giving them a 6-0 cushion. Bentley scored three in the second half, Newton got two and Hall one, with Marriott again impressive with his tagging.

Newmarket v Wendens Ambo
Under-eight
BEN Le Mare scored the first and last tries as Newmarket made light work of their rivals in the first of two games.

With solid defence, they added further tries from Evan Thomas-Mansfield (2), Harrison Jones, Jack Leaman, and a length-of-the-pitch dash from Freddie Nash sealed a 7-3 win.

However, the second match was considerably tighter as Wendens put out a much stronger side and made Newmarket work hard for their narrow 8-7 win.

Again Le Mare scored the opener and, with solid back-up from his team-mates, went on to score four more. Ben Lawson, Evan Thomas-Mansfield and Carter Wilder completed the scoring.

Wendens Ambo 20 Newmarket 10
Under-12
DESPITE the absence of several key players, Newmarket battled well, both in the forwards and defensively, before a controversial penalty try set them back on their heels.

Trailing 10-0, they laid siege to the Wendens line, crossing three times with the tries disallowed as the home side claimed they had managed to hold up the ball. Ciaran Abrahams and Sam Christie did manage to score, but Newmarket were left feeling they should have won.

Newmarket 5 Shelford 34
Under-15
AN understrength Newmarket side competed well against the only side to have beaten them this season.

The scoreline does not reflect their performance – under-14 player Daniel Bristow scoring their try – but they take heart from the fact that, at the mid-season break, they have won six out of eight games, scoring 169 points and conceding 75, with clean sheets in four of these games.

Newmarket 60 Wisbech 0
Under-16
NEWMARKET showed little festive spirit, working hard to remorselessly finish off Wisbech.

Ricky Jones' hat-trick from full-back earned him the man-of-the-match award, but skipper TJ Rowland, who led by example, and Jack Wade both scored twice.

Further tries came from Adam Elmer, Henry De Havas Morais – who made a big impression on his debut – and Michael Dennis rounded off the touchdowns, with Toby kicking five conversions.

» Boxing

Pat McAleese: Given a night off

McAleese goes into cold storage after fight call-off

PAT McAleese hopes to be back in action next month after his scheduled contest on Saturday was called off.
The unbeaten Newmarket light-middleweight had been due to box on the undercard of Danny McIntosh's English light-heavyweight title defence against Tony Oakey in Norwich. But the show was cancelled after McIntosh suffered an ankle injury in training.
McAleese admitted it was disappointing as he had hoped to build quickly on the success of his bill-topping outing at Tattersalls last month. He said: "I could have sold so many tickets for it because everyone was ringing me saying they were going to use it as a Christmas works do.
"But I'm gutted about it because it would have been nice just before Christmas to try to go to 10-0."
McAleese now hopes to return to the ring next month before trying to box again in his home town in the spring.
He said: "I should be out again in January. It means I can't go mad over Christmas, but I'm still training as if I'm fighting and getting fitter."

» Racing

Honoured: Henry Cecil with his lifetime achievement award

Cecil 'chuffed' at award

HENRY Cecil's monumental career in racing was recognised with a lifetime achievement award at the BBC East Sports Awards.
The Newmarket trainer was on familiar territory at Tattersalls to receive the trophy from jockey Frankie Dettori.
The award recognises the stellar achievements of a trainer widely recognised as a genius with more than 3,000 winners, including 35 Classics at home and abroad. Describing himself as "chuffed", Cecil told the guests how a positive attitude had helped him battle back from a spell in the doldrums as a trainer and his fight against cancer.

Cumani's target for Presvis

LUCA Cumani was satisfied with the performance of Presvis despite seeing his charge beaten into third by Vision D'Etat in the Hong Kong Cup.

The Newmarket handler had warned that the QEII Cup winner may need the run, and his representative finished with menace under Kieren Fallon.

Cumani said: "I thought he would be in the first three and that's exactly what he's managed to do.

"He had nowhere to go in the straight but once he got going, he's passed a lot of horses in the final furlong. He'll improve for the run and we'll now look forward to Dubai and coming back here in the spring.

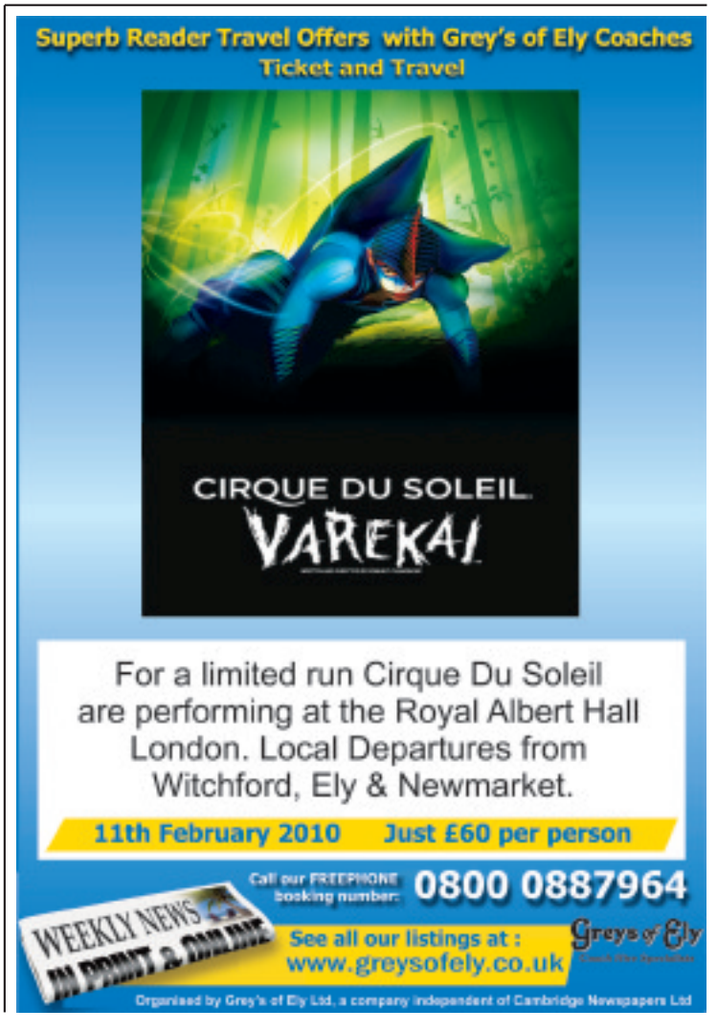
"He flies out there on Tuesday and we'll give him a run on the grass and one on the Tapeta to decide which race we go for on the World Cup night."

Sir Michael Stoute's Spanish Moon was only beaten a short head by Daryakana in the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Vase

The trainer said: "I was very happy with the performance and everything went to plan, but the filly was just better than us on the day. We'll give him a rest now and then take him to Dubai for the Sheema Classic."

■ James Fanshawe is keen to give Cesare another outing over obstacles after the smart Flat performer finished a respectable third on his hurdling debut at Doncaster on Saturday.

The Group Two-winning eight-year-old, travelled strongly and jumped impressively in Yorkshire, but could not pick up in the home straight.



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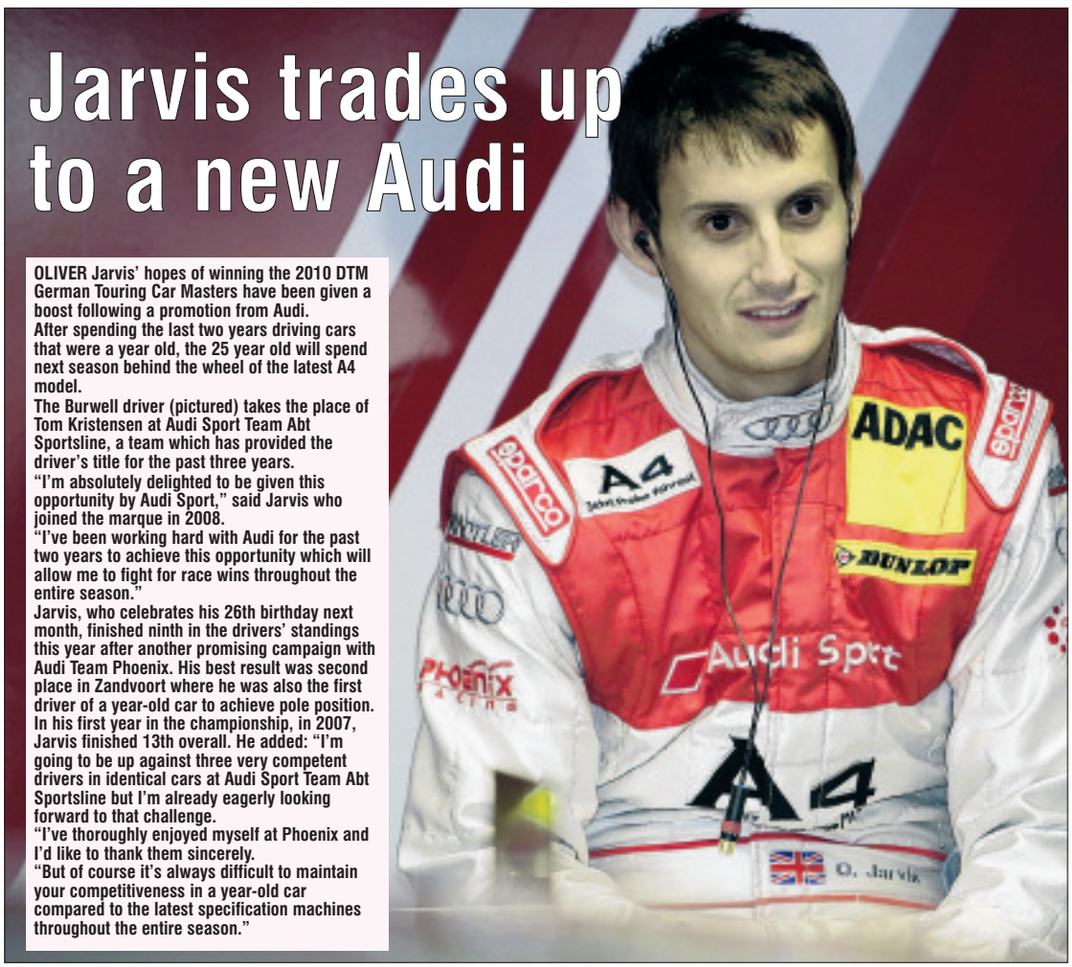
» Motorsport

Jarvis trades up to a new Audi



OLIVER Jarvis' hopes of winning the 2010 DTM German Touring Car Masters have been given a boost following a promotion from Audi.

After spending the last two years driving cars that were a year old, the 25 year old will spend next season behind the wheel of the latest A4 model.

The Burwell driver (pictured) takes the place of Tom Kristensen at Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline, a team which has provided the driver's title for the past three years.

"I'm absolutely delighted to be given this opportunity by Audi Sport," said Jarvis who joined the marque in 2008.

"I've been working hard with Audi for the past two years to achieve this opportunity which will allow me to fight for race wins throughout the entire season."

Jarvis, who celebrates his 26th birthday next month, finished ninth in the drivers' standings this year after another promising campaign with Audi Team Phoenix. His best result was second place in Zandvoort where he was also the first driver of a year-old car to achieve pole position.

In his first year in the championship, in 2007, Jarvis finished 13th overall. He added: "I'm going to be up against three very competent drivers in identical cars at Audi Sport Team Abt Sportsline but I'm already eagerly looking forward to that challenge.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed myself at Phoenix and I'd like to thank them sincerely.

"But of course it's always difficult to maintain your competitiveness in a year-old car compared to the latest specification machines throughout the entire season."

» Speedway

Hart a big lift for Laurence

NICK Laurence believes the signing of top man Jerran Hart will help him improve as a rider and turn Mildenhall into National League title contenders.

The 19 year old from Eastbourne seized his chance to stake a permanent team place in mid-July and never looked back, averaging 3.49 over 14 appearances to make one of the reserve berths his own.

"I really enjoyed the end of last season," he said, "and I am certainly looking forward to next year already. I came to Mildenhall just to do a few rides as a No 8 and then I got my opportunity when a rider was injured.

"It took two or three meetings to get the right set-up and engines, but then everything went fine.

"It's a nice circuit to ride, the last three meetings the track was a bit inconsistent but that was down to the weather changes."

Having now struck a permanent deal with the Fen Tigers, the teenager will be making his first full season foray into the sport alongside friend Joe Jacobs in the reserve positions.

"I get on well with Joe outside of the sport," he said. "As a rider he races safe and I am sure we will make a strong reserve partnership. The whole team is looking strong and we should be up there challenging for trophies.

"Jerran coming is a big boost. As he is younger than me, he will make me want to strive on to do better as a rider.

"It was the first time I had a chance to chat with him at the club's Christmas party on Sunday and he is a great lad with his head well focused.

"I've stripped my bike down ready for next year. It was new last year, so I won't be making any big changes, I'll just get some items in from Poland like a new cover, kevlars and bearings. My sponsor Joe Hughes helps me out a lot.

"I'll be aiming to put a point on my average, keep injury free and be consistent."

» Football

'Hall in as Walden pull the plug on tie

MILDENHALL Town will play CRC in the second round of the Cambs Invitation Cup after Saffron Walden Town withdrew from the competition.

Walden and Mildenhall originally played earlier this month but the tie had to be replayed after the first encounter was abandoned because of floodlight failure with Mildenhall leading 3-0.

But Town chairman Martin Tuck said Walden had withdrawn from the competition as they did not want to make another trip to Mildenhall.

"We never had any issues with Saffron Walden," said Tuck. "We're glad the situation has been resolved."

Boss Simon Charlton said: "It's disappointing it's happened this way. But it's their decision and it's one less game for us to play over the Christmas period." Charlton was delighted with his team's effort on Saturday after substitute David Cooper scored a late winner against Leiston.

John Sands have Town an early lead when he netted in the fifth minute but despite dominating the first half, Mildenhall conceded just before half-time. Leiston had more possession in the second half but with 10 minutes to go Cooper grabbed the winner.

"I was very pleased with the performance," said Charlton. "On a heavy pitch the players looked lively and never gave up."

Mildenhall go into the festive period without a game on Saturday. They were due to play King's Lynn, who have been wound up, and are not in action until Boxing Day when they are at Ely. Two days later they are at home to Wisbech.

Town turn the screw

Newmarket Tn 3 Dereham Tn 0
Ridgeons League, Premier Division

GOALS from David Grainger, Jon Olive and Ollie Drake gave Newmarket a deserved win as they continued to climb the table.

A competitive first half brought chances at both ends, but Adam Murray and Colin Vowden impressed in the Newmarket defence and the score remained goalless at the break.

Dereham controlled the early stages of the second half but Newmarket opened the scoring against the run of play when Grainger smashed the ball home from 20 yards.

From that moment the hosts dominated, and Olive doubled the lead with a well-taken goal shortly afterwards. Drake completed the win with a fine long-range effort that gave the Dereham keeper no chance. "It was a good win and just what we needed after the defeat to Ely in midweek," said Newmarket boss Kevin Grainger.

"It was a good game and it was very pleasing to get the win. They're a good team, Dereham, so it was good to beat them.

"When we got our chance we took it and we never looked back after that."

The Jockeys are at Woodbridge on Saturday for their last Ridgeons League game before the Christmas programme, when they face Haverhill at home on Boxing Day and Dereham away on December 29.

» Volleyball

Newmarket turn to the old heads

NEWMARKET preserved their unbeaten record in the Cambridge League when they saw off St Philips 3-1 at home.

They introduced their youngest players, Keegan Ayre and Thomas Pinker – as well as senior players Keith Hardman and Sean McCormack – and, after a tentative start, the team started to gel and closed out the set at 25-16.

But although Rob Dovaston continued his rich vein of form, the squad of new players just lost out in the second set 25-21.

Newmarket added a little more experience for the third set, and with Nik Mezanov leading the way at No 4, they managed to regain their focus and squeeze in 28-26. And with Ben Child preserving his 100 per cent hitting record, the home side claimed victory with a 25-21 scoreline in a frantic final set.

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